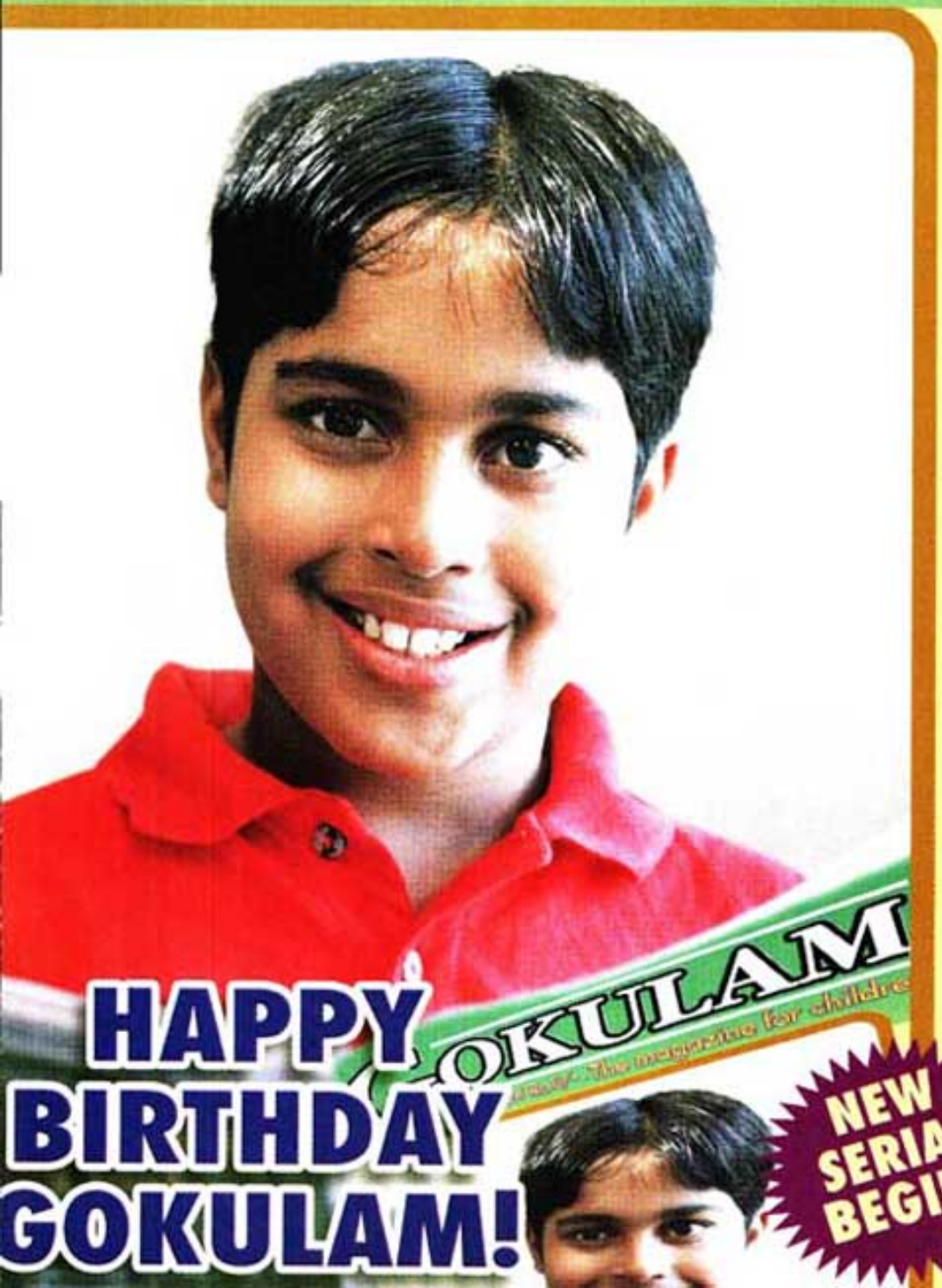
GOKULAM

July 2004 Rs.8/- The magazine for children



Ans : 1. Top of Tom's cap missing 2. Tom's Dress design 3. Tom's eyebrow missing 4. Tom's shoelace 5. Jerry's whiskers 6. Jerry's tail 7. Jerry's scarf 8. Tom's Eyeballs

SPOT THE EIGHT DIFFERENCES AND COLOUR THE PICTURES!

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GOKULAM

JULY 2004
Vol. XVII, No.1

Of all created things the loveliest,
And most divine are children.
-William Canton

Model:Kashyap
Cover Photo:Sri Hari

PRE-BUDGET PRICE HIKE!

Forming a cabinet at the Centre was no cake-walk for Manmohan Singh. Communists - partners in the United Progressive Alliance - declared that they will not join the cabinet but will support the government as long as it sticks to the Common Minimum Programme. But the D.M.K. after saying that it will not join the cabinet, changed its mind at the request of Sonia Gandhi. Later, after the portfolios were announced, D.M.K. Supremo, Karunanidhi said that the ministers belonging to his party would not assume office, unless they were given the portfolios promised in the list signed by Janardhan Reddy. While going back on promises is bad, it is astonishing that Janardhan Reddy should have signed such a list. Choice of ministers and their portfolios are the absolute prerogative of the Prime Minister. However the Prime Minister yielded and the matter was settled amicably.

The B.J.P. began its opposition by demanding the resignation of "tainted ministers". But this did not hold water since the previous N.D.A. government had tainted ministers too! While each accuses the other, no one wants to cleanse his own stable.

The B.J.P. is also trying to find out the reasons for its defeat at the polls. Vajpayee has admitted that the Gujrat incidents were shameful and responsible for the losses suffered by B.J.P. in the elections and he was and still is in favour of Modi's resignation. But other party and Sangh Pariwar big wigs do not agree with him. The latter have gone to the extent of saying that Vajpayee should take rest! Meanwhile a group of four Pakistani extremists have been killed by the police in a gun battle in Ahmedabad. The incidents prove once again, that hatred breeds hatred and vengeance breeds retaliation.

The budget is expected on July 8th, but already the housewife faces an increase of Rs.20/- per gas cylinder and motorists a petrol price hike. In defence, the U.P.A. government says that international oil prices had gone up long ago, but the previous N.D.A government did not put up the prices, with elections round the corner.

VIOLENCE Vs VALOUR

Dear Readers,

The Viewpoint column in this issue carries a few letters condemning violence on the movie and TV screens. While this protest is to be welcomed, children should also be able to differentiate between valour and violence.

Supposing the story line of the cinema speaks about a damsel in distress, the hero should go to her rescue. This is valour and not violence. Of course, blood - shed is to be expected or death. But what is important is to see that the scenes conform to the law of the land.

In the Ramayana, Seetha being abducted by Ravana is violence but Jatayu going to her rescue and losing his life is valour, and so is Rama's battle with Ravana. Mahabharatha too depicts many scenes of valour during the war at Kurukshetra.

Soldiers defending our country during the recent Kargil war was a wonderful, true episode of valour.

Every year children get Bravery Awards for their acts of valour from the President of India.

But even valour when portrayed improperly on the screen becomes violence, especially violence of our senses. If the hero is shown as a person taking law into his own hands, killing the villain and this is shown in all its gruesome details it becomes violence. Such unnatural scenes of violence have a very bad effect on our minds.

Even Tom and Jerry cartoons have been accused of overplaying cruelty resulting in highlighting of violence instead of valour.

So, essentially one should know where to draw the line. Remember, even Gandhiji, who preached non-violence based the same on bravery and not cowardice.

- Editor

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The Magazine for Children

Serial Chapter-I

NEW!

Mr. and Mrs. Mani parked their car in the garage. The house was in complete darkness. " Why is the verandah light not on? Despite my warning them, Asha and Anil are so careless," said Mr.Mani angrily. Mrs. Mani helped Grandma and Grandpa alight from the car.

Mr. Mani tried to open the front door with his key and stared in disbelief as the front door readily opened. They all stealthily entered the dark room. As Mr. Mani groped for the light switch, Asha and Anil jumped out from behind the sofa and sang "Happy Birthday, Granny". Granny was stunned. "You naughty kids! For a minute I thought there was a thief inside the house!" she said as she cut the Birthday Cake.

"Please Granny, tell us about Sri Lanka, since I'll be seeing you only next year." said Asha after the brief birthday party was over.

"Children, I have so many interesting things to tell you about Sri Lanka" said Granny.

"I know that Sri Lanka is called 'Teardrop'. Why Granny?" asked Asha.

"Because... Girls in Sri Lanka keep shedding tears." Anil's answer made all of them laugh.

"Sri Lanka is shaped like a giant teardrop. It looks like it is falling from the Southern tip of India. It is separated from India only by a 50 km stretch of water. The whole country is only 350 kms long and 180 kms wide" explained Granny.

"So small" murmured Asha.

"Small but beautiful, one of the most beautiful islands of the world. While Northern Sri Lanka is a plain land, the Southern part is a rugged hill country..."

"Granny, how long have you been in Colombo?" interrupted Anil.

Kanthalakshmi Chandramouli

THE INTERNATIONAL ROBBERY

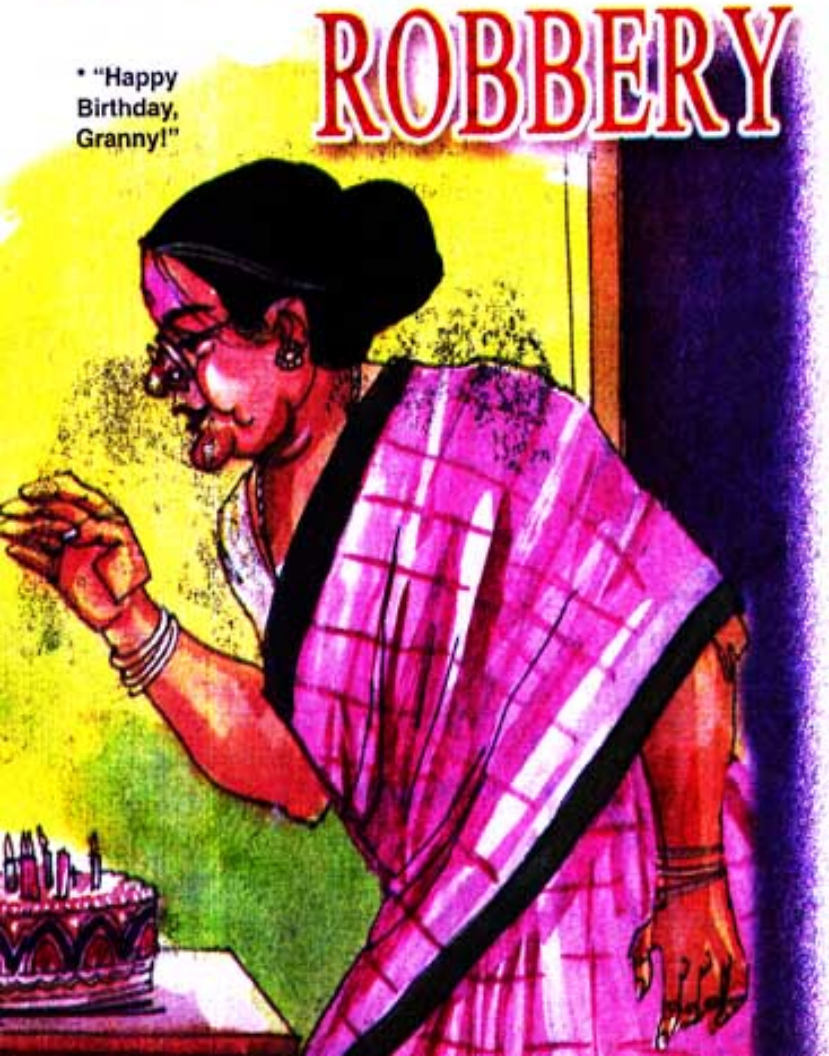
"I was born in India but went to Colombo after my marriage. That was about 60 years ago" she replied and went on.

"Sigiriya is one of the most beautiful and spectacular tourist spots in Sri Lanka. It is a 200 metres lump of granite which rises from a flat plain. It is nearly 1000 years old and has a fascinating history. It is a three and a half hour drive from Colombo. The only modes of transport within Sri Lanka are road and rail. You are bound to enjoy the scenic beauty as you travel.

"The lovely tea estates, the old capital city of Anuradhapura, the sacred Buddhist Bo-Tree... The Thuparama Dagoba is the oldest Buddhist Temple, and treasures Buddha's right collar bone. The port of Galle is a famous legacy left behind by the Dutch..." Granny loved talking about her country.

"Don't you ever miss India?" asked Asha.

"I do. My parents were here. My eldest daughter-your



• "Happy Birthday, Granny!"

• Granny gave Asha a beautiful jewel box.

mother is here in Chennai, my younger daughter-your Aunt Sunitha is in London. I miss you both and my British grandson Mike" sighed Granny.

"Mike is British? Really?" asked Anil.

"Yes, his father, Thomas Brite is a Britisher. Sunitha met him, fell in love and married him when they were at college in Sri Lanka." Granny smiled.

"How romantic! I have a foreigner as my cousin. Granny, do tell us more," begged Asha.

"Tell us about the Sri Lankan civil war and about the LTTE and IPKF" asked Anil.

Just then the phone rang. "It is Aunt Sunitha and she wants to speak to you urgently." Anil handed the phone to Granny. Both Anil and Asha bade Granny goodnight and left for their rooms.

In the morning, Asha and Anil were informed by Granny that Mike would be visiting India and would stay with them. She was also very happy that on his way back to London, Mike would be visiting her at Sri Lanka. She invited Anil and Asha to visit her too.

Soon it was time for Granny and Grandpa to leave. Granny gave Asha a beautiful jewel box. "Open it" urged Grandpa. Asha opened it and gasped. Inside was a beautiful diamond jewellery set - a tiara, a necklace with a peacock shaped pendant , a pair of ear studs, a pair of bangles and a ring. They were embellished with dazzling diamonds of all sizes.

Asha's parents were stunned. "Asha is so young. Why do you give her such expensive jewellery?" asked her father. "It is a family heirloom. Since she is the only daughter in the family, I thought she should have it."

"Such a lovely tiara. I thought only queens wore such tiaras" exclaimed Asha.

"Once upon a time, one of your grandfather's ancestors served a Chola King during his visit to Sri Lanka. As a token of appreciation, the King gave him the tiara. It has been handed down from generation to generation. It is worth a fortune; crores of rupees. Keep

it safely" said Granny as they bade farewell to their grand children.

That night they received shocking news from Grandpa. Granny had fallen down the stairs at the airport and had broken her hip. She had been hospitalised.

Mr. and Mrs. Mani had to leave for Colombo right away.

"How can we leave the children alone?" Mrs. Mani was worried.

While packing, she gave them lots of instructions. "Don't open the door to strangers. Don't talk to outsiders. Don't let anyone know that you are alone.Keep the doors and windows bolted at night."

"Don't worry mom. I'll take care of our home and Asha. Moreover, Mike is coming tomorrow" assured Anil.

The next day they all left for the airport. After Asha and Anil had seen off their parents they stayed back to recieve Mike whose flight was delayed by four hours.

Anil bought Asha a cool drink and a sandwich and then went off to browse in the bookstore.

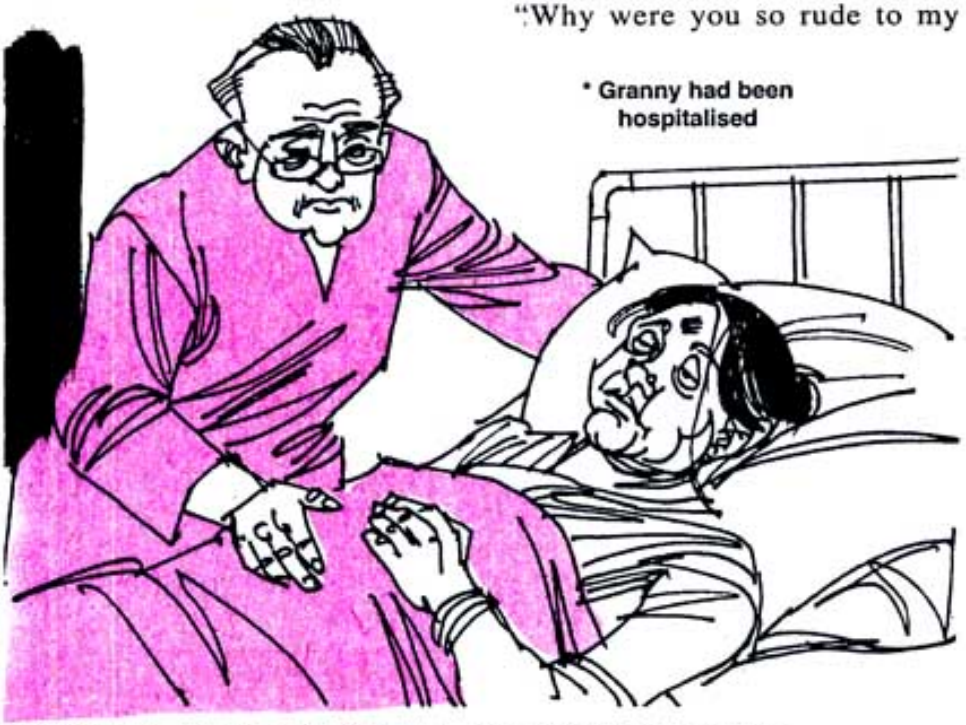
"Hi, I'm Swapna" a pretty young lady introduced herself to Asha.

By the time Anil came back, she was chatting away with Asha. "Asha is lucky to have a brother like you to take care of her when her parents are away," she told Anil when he joined them. Anil did not speak to her.

"Why were you so rude to my friend?" demanded Asha.

"You fool! You have told a complete stranger that we are alone at home." reprimanded Anil.

To be continued...



* Granny had been hospitalised

RAIN WATER HARVESTING

"Students, we are going to conduct an exhibition on Rain Water Harvesting. But first, tell me what are the sources of water?"

"Rain, lakes..."

"Ponds, wells...."

"Rivers..."

"Ok. Now, apart from the water we get from lakes and rivers, we most often use the water we get from beneath the earth's surface. If we dig upto a certain depth under the earth, we get water from the ground. This water is the result of rain water seeping into the ground, over a period of years.

"Then, why is there water scarcity, sir?"

"Due to increasing population, deforestation, concrete buildings, decreasing rainfall, etc., the ground water starts diminishing slowly. Due to this, there is shortage of water. Now comes the need to save rain water."

"How do we save rain water, sir?"

"There are two ways by which we can harvest rain water. One of the ways is to build big pits or tanks by which the rain water can be saved. The other method is to build pipes from terraces from where rain water can be redirected into tanks. The water thus collected can be purified by passing it through layers of stones or fine sand. This clean water may be let into wells or back into earth. Thus, we can prevent further depletion of the underground water table.

Now do you understand the importance of rain water harvesting, children?"

"Yes, sir!" replied the children in chorus.

"We will also start rain water harvesting in our homes, sir!"

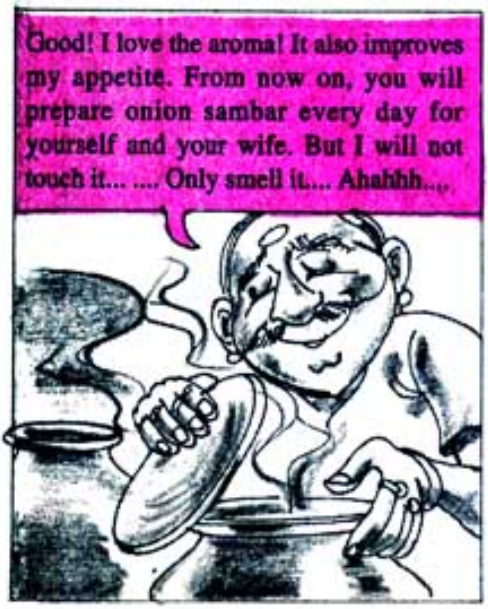
THE COST OF SMELLING

Story : S. Priyadarshini, Std.XI, B.B.D.H.S.S, Chennai
Illustration : Lalitha

And so the servant couple prepared onion sambar...
We will have all the sambar for ourselves!
I'm already hungry!

But to their dismay Ramayya returned early...
What is that wonderful smell...?
It's ..... it's.....

Ramayya was furious...
Come on, out with it!
It's onion sambar, my Master!


Good! I love the aroma! It also improves my appetite. From now on, you will prepare onion sambar every day for yourself and your wife. But I will not touch it... .... Only smell it.... Ahahhh....

A month went by...
Our Master will not pay for the onions because he doesn't eat them...
Onions are so costly these days... we can't afford it any longer.

The couple decided to appeal to their Master's sense of fair play.
Master! Though you don't eat onions, you are benefited by its smell. It is but proper you pay for the onions!
Of course! Stay here while I count some coins for you.
Ramayya went into his private room and started counting coins...
CLING
CLING
TING
TING
Meanwhile-
Wow! He's counting a lot of money!
We're lucky!
After sometime Ramayya came out...
The money Master...
Didn't you hear the ting ting...?
Well, I smelt the onions and you listened to the cling clang of the coins! And that's the end of it. I've been very fair!
THE END

Case File-13

Sunder's mother, was in her seventies and was bedridden. She could not move her limbs following a paralytic attack. She was lying in bed in a room on the first floor of the house. From there she could see the street through the window.

With a shivering voice the old lady had complained to her daughter-in- law that morning.

"Padma, Ramiah has planned to bomb our house. I saw him just now standing across the street near the bakery and talking about his plan to his friend."

Sunder entered the room just then and immediately yelled, "That scoundrel has still not learnt his lesson."

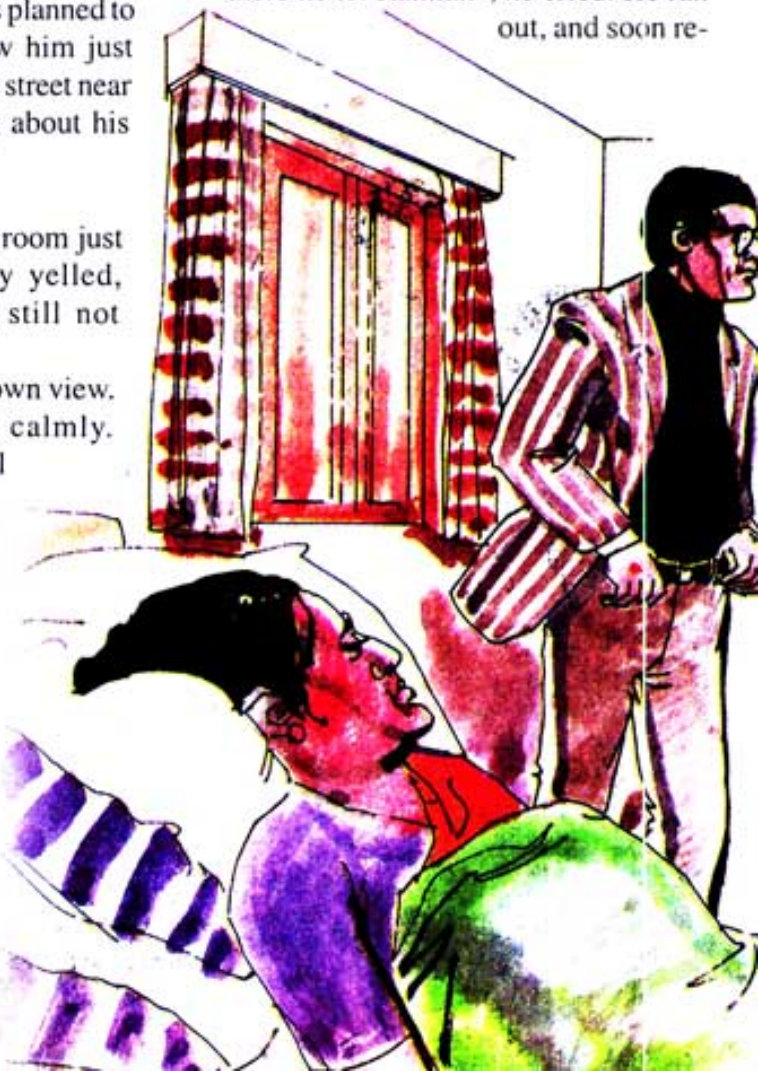
But Padma had her own view. "Please wait. Think calmly. Would anybody tell aloud, his plans of bombing a house to his friend? That too in a voice audible to a lady of the house which he intends to bomb?"

"But Padma, you forget that my mother has worked as a teacher in a deaf and dumb school for children. She knows well, the art of lip-reading. So even if Ramiah had whispered his plans to his accomplice from a distance, my mother could have figured out what they talked."

At that time, the calling bell rang. Sunder opened the door and was thrilled to see Ramshekar.

"You came at the right time Ramshekar." Sunder then explained all that was going on.

Suddenly, Sunder's eyes focused on a person walking in the street. "Look, there he is! Ramiah", he cried. He ran out, and soon re-



G.S.S.

THE ACCUSATION

turned with Ramiah.

Ramiah was trembling. "This is unjust. You are leveling false accusations against me."

Ramshekar looked questioningly at Sunder. But Sunder was very sure. "I had employed Ramiah to look after my mother, who is bedridden. He once stole the bangles, belonging to my mother, from the cupboard. But my mother woke up unexpectedly and yelled. He was promptly thrown out of the house. We also filed a police complaint and he was sentenced to three months imprisonment."

Ramiah protested and pleaded that he was innocent. "But that does not mean I will go to the extent of bombing your house. I am really puzzled to hear such accusations made against me. Three months of imprisonment has changed me a lot. Believe me."

"But where were you ten minutes ago?" asked Ramshekar.

"I am just returning from the railway station. I had been to my village in Andhra Pradesh to seek the blessings of my grandmother as I am getting married next week."

Ramshekar stared deeply into the eyes of Ramiah. He thought of a plan. "Sunder, take Ramiah near the bakery across the road. Stand there with him."

Ramshekar went to the first floor of the house. He entered the room of the old lady. She was now fast asleep. Ramshekar waited for a few more seconds. Then, he opened the window near the bed and looked out. Ramiah and Sunder were clearly visible. They were indulging in a verbal quarrel, which was very clear.

Ramshekar was now absolutely sure. He said to Padma, "You were right. Your mother-in- law is suffering from hallucinations. Kindly take her to a psychiatrist."

Why did Ramshekar arrive at this conclusion? If you are unable to find the answer, turn to Page 39.

"Wondrous the English Language..."

Dear Readers,

Its good to be back and I will try my best to answer your questions. Although English is an easy language to learn, it is maddening to master. So if I make any mistakes, please correct me. The very first question on the list given to me, had me flummoxed. In case you do not know the meaning of this word it means to be confused, to give up etc. I did not like the idea of giving up even before I had started. So here goes. The question was:-

Which is the longest word in the English language?

It looks more to me like a fun kind of question. In school we used to ask each other this question. And the answer to it was Smiles—Because there is a mile between the Ss! The dictionary did not help me find the longest word. So what did I do? I went to the web of course. The longest word is;-pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosic (45 letters)

Wow! But it is not a difficult word at all. It is a number of prefixes joined together. Remember the prefixes we did in class last year? Let's split the word up, shall we? Here goes:-

pneumo	of the lung
mono	single
ultra	highest degree
microscopic	minute, very small
silico	dust
volcano	gas, steam and molten material ejected from deep inside the earth from a mountain top.
coniosic	cylindrical.

So the meaning of this word should be a disease of the lungs caused by volcanic dust.

The National Puzzler's League in America, at one of its meetings recognized this as the longest word in the English language.

There is another word longer than this but it is the name of a village in Wales,

Llanfairpullguyngyllgogerychwyrndrodbwllantysiliogogogoch (58 letters)

The shortest word in the English language? There are, of course, many.

YOUR ENGLISH

Radha Padmanabhan

But the most important is the word, 'I'.

Teach me to pronounce the word memoir with its parent origin.

- R. Arvindh, Pallavaram

It is very difficult to teach you pronunciation without your knowing phonetic symbols. But let me try. Pronounce it as though the spelling was Memwar. The ' r ' in 'war' is hardly pronounced at all. It is just glided over. The word is from French.

★★★

I often make mistakes while using words like little, a little and the little.

- P.Abinaya, Chennai

'A little' means a small quantity, not much. Eg. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

'The little' means a specific small quantity. Eg. The little French he knew was not of much use when he went to Paris.

'Little' means the same as a little, a small quantity. It also means the opposite of big. But in a sentence like, "Little did he know that his pet dog had died when he was away on holiday" means that he did not know at all.

★★★

How many parts of speech are there—8 or 10?

- K.Nirmal Selvan, Villipuram

Broadly speaking, there are 8 parts of speech and these are nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, conjunctions, articles and prepositions. But there are also what are called gerunds and participles which may be included in parts of speech. A gerund is a verbal noun and a participle is derived from a verb and has the function of an adjective.

★★★

What is the plural of the word OK? Is it OKS or OKES. Which one is correct?

- G.N. Pavithra, Gingee

Neither. OK has no plural at all. The origin of the word is from U.S. slang and is an abbreviation of 'oll korrect' (all correct) meaning everything is in order.

★★★

What is the difference between extra curricular activities and co-curricular activities?

- A. Rajashekhar, Coimbatore.

For instance if you visit the Humpi ruins and are a student of Indian History, it would be a co-curricular activity. If you were a science student it would be an extra- curricular activity. Curriculum is a course of study. So if the activity is connected to what you are studying then it is a co- curricular activity .If not, the activity is outside your curriculum, so it becomes extra curricular activity

★★★

Radha Aunty, can you tell me some interesting facts about countable nouns?

L. Harihara Sudhan, Madurai

Nouns have two numbers—singular and plural, and these are called countable nouns. eg one book, two books etc. There are certain nouns for some reason or other that do not take a plural;-eg. deer, sheep swine, cod, trout and salmon. Some nouns are found only in the plural, like trousers and scissors—.eg. In the classroom there were thirty pairs of scissors. Elvis Presly is said to have had 365 pairs of trousers one for each day of the year.

Dear Readers,

Radha Aunty will continue the question / answer column on English grammar, pronunciation, meanings etc. We request you to send in your queries. Radha Aunty will answer these every month.

The last date for the August issue is 5.7.04

Questions must be sent only on a postcard with your name, age, class, school and residential address clearly mentioned. Only one question per postcard.

Address your questions to :
Improve your English,
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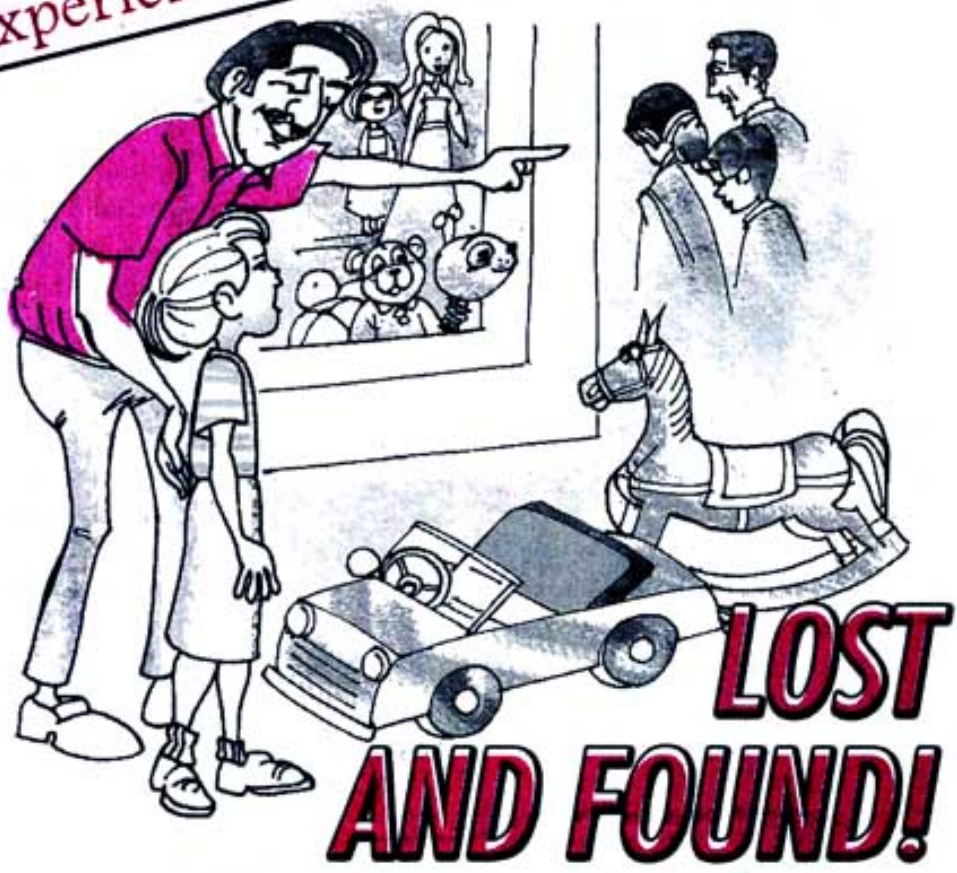
- Editor



LOST AND FOUND!

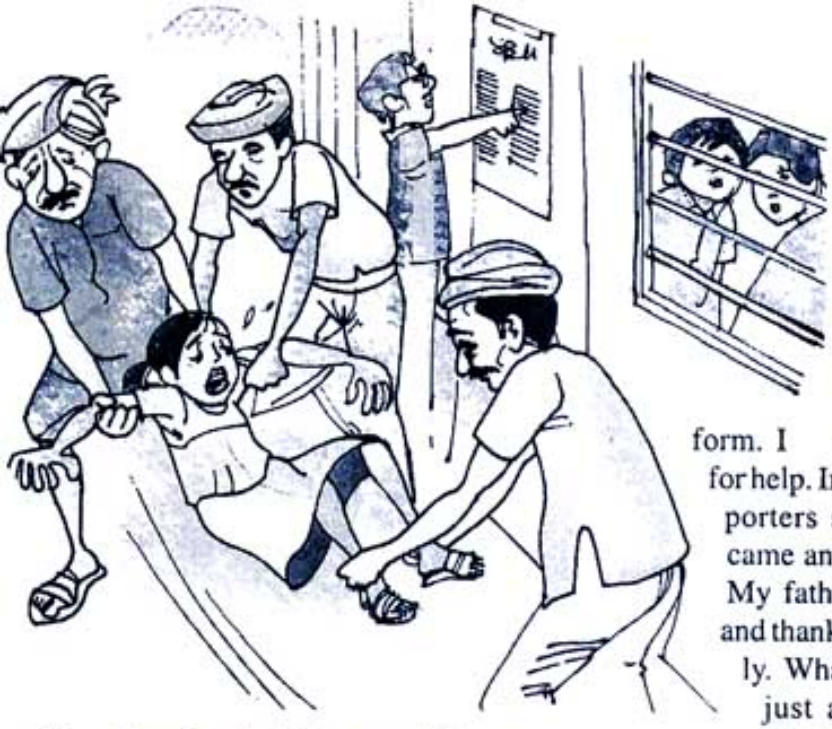
I was six years old then.

It was Diwali and my parents took me out shopping. We went to a shopping center that had a lot of shops. My parents entered a cracker shop and soon got busy buying a variety of crackers. I felt bored after some time and started looking around. There was a toyshop nearby. Attracted by the colourful toys, I went into that shop and started browsing around. I saw a beautiful doll and immediately wanted to buy it. When I turned around to ask my parents to buy me that doll, I realised they were missing! I got scared and began to cry. The shopkeeper, on seeing me, very kindly asked the reason for my tears. Patting me on my back, he turned me around and there stood my parents in the very same shop but on the far side, obviously looking for me! What a relief!

S.Sindhu, Std.VIII, KV, Kasargod

A LUCKY ESCAPE

My parents and I were waiting for our train at the railway station. The atmosphere was tense. Our tickets had not been confirmed and we were in the waiting list. My mother and I boarded the train, hoping to get our tickets con-



firmed and waited for my father to come. My father was busy talking to the TT about our ticket confirmation. There were only four minutes for the train to leave. My mother sent me to look for my father. Just as I was getting down from the train, I slipped and fell inbetween the train and the platform. I started shouting for help. Immediately some porters standing nearby came and helped me out. My father came running and thanked them profusely. What if I had fallen just as the train had started moving...I still shudder to think of that incident...

V.P.Jayashree, Std.VIII,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya,
Jamshedpur

A LESSON WELL LEARNT!

It was another boring Monday at school! Our Maths teacher was droning on, solving some problems on the board. She then told us to do those sums in our classwork notebook. To my horror I found that I had forgotten to bring it! My teacher asked me to do each of those sums five times in my rough note. I went home feeling very unhappy about what happened that day. I searched every nook and corner of my house but could not find my note book. I was

VALUE YOUR FRIENDS

Vidya and I were the best of friends in class. And we had known each other only for a year! Such are friendships made in school!

But one day we both had a bitter fight and ended up not talking to each other. The first day after the fight, both of us remained unconcerned and talked and laughed with the others in class, ignoring each other totally. But the second and third days were unbearable! I had by then quite forgotten the trifling matter over which we had fought! Finally not being able to bear it any longer, I walked up to Vidya and spoke to her.

Vidya too had felt exactly the same way. We fell into each other's arms and cried. From that very second, we made an agreement never to fight again! We told each other that we would remain friends forever. We also became famous in class as 'the inseparables'!

Akshatha Hegde,
Std.VIII, P. P. Education Centre, Bangalore

literally in tears, as I would have to re-write the whole term's portions in a new notebook.

After a while, I washed my face and as I took the towel from the bathroom shelf to dry myself, what did I find but my 'lost' notebook lying safely there! That's when I remembered I had kept my book there in a hurry after doing my lessons during the weekend! I learnt my lesson about 'keeping everything in its place'!

M.Gnana Sezhian,
Std.VIII,
Don Bosco, Chennai

1. KNOW YOUR BEETLES

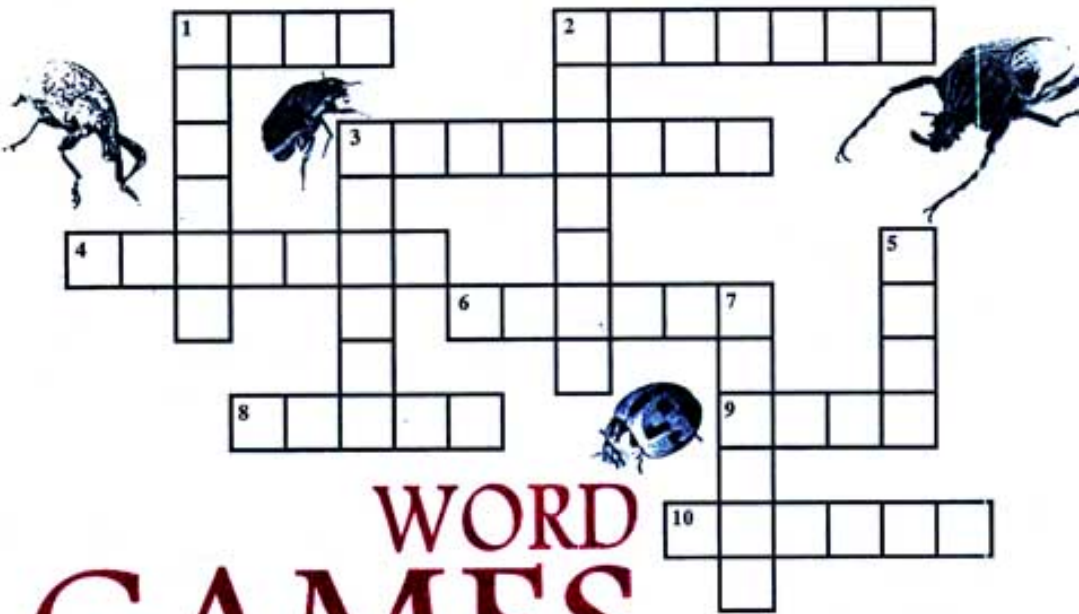
Across :

1. A weevil that eats cotton plants
2. A use for the fore wings
3. Another use for the fore wings
4. A very large beetle
6. Burying beetles dig this
8. Most beetles have two pairs of these
9. Burying beetles lay eggs on dead...
10. Weevils cause a lot of this to crops.

Down :

1. One out of every five animals on earth
2. A kind of 'digging' beetle
3. A crop in the deep south
5. Insects lay...
7. This hatches from insect eggs

- V. Sri Marees, Std.VIII, Akshaya Vidyalaya, Dindugal



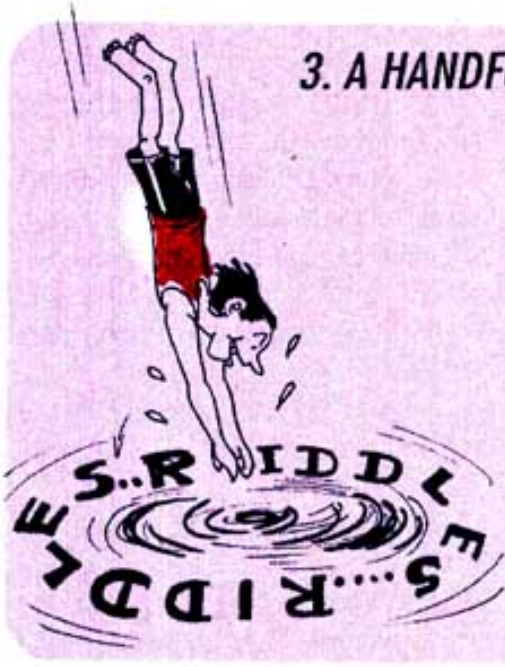
WORD GAMES

2. KNOW YOUR KINGS

Look at the grid across the page. It contains names of brave and great kings of the past. Try to find them using the clues given below :

Clues :

1. He was a very great king who had the wisest minister in his court.
2. After Kalinga war he became a Buddhist.
3. A brave and famous king of the Chola Dynasty who got his leg burnt.
4. The famous Chera king who built a temple for Kannagi.



3. A HANDFUL OF RIDDLES

1. Which nation forms images?
2. Scientifically, from which garden can we get a tan?
3. Which insect is very religious?
4. Which colour lacks everything?
5. Which fibre weighs a ton?
6. Which city do gangs talk about?
7. Which itch is good for our clothes?
8. Which beverage coughs?
9. Which pain breaks?
10. Which spin do we eat?

- Arjun Satheesh, Std. VIII, MES Central School, Tirur, Kerala

A	U	V	M	S	T	U	P	Q	R	S	F	J	C
K	T	L	P	O	N	O	M	A	S	A	N	U	H
B	J	A	I	J	K	L	C	K	O	M	O	L	E
A	M	N	O	P	S	T	Q	R	T	U	H	I	N
R	E	D	N	A	X	E	L	A	U	D	G	U	G
L	A	F	A	S	H	O	K	A	M	R	I	S	U
S	H	A	H	J	A	H	A	N	N	A	A	C	T
K	K	J	E	M	G	R	R	U	O	G	F	A	T
J	B	I	H	P	H	F	I	X	A	U	B	E	U
L	M	N	S	J	E	T	K	Y	B	P	Z	S	V
A	V	I	K	R	A	M	A	D	I	T	Y	A	A
Z	N	O	Q	P	O	U	L	W	C	A	C	R	N
Y	L	R	S	T	V	H	A	A	D	X	O	O	L
X	W	V	Q	D	H	A	N	A	N	A	N	D	A

ANSWERS ON PAGE 58

5. A very brave king who was also a devotee of Goddess Kali.
6. The last ruler of the Nanda dynasty.
7. He is known as '_____ The Great'
8. A ruler among the Guptas who was also a great musician.
9. The conqueror of Britain. The month of July is derived from his name.
10. A Mughal emperor who built the Taj Mahal.

- N. Aparna, Std.VI, D.A.V.M.H.S.S., Chennai

Retold Story

THE CHRISTMAS

It was christmas eve. All day it had been snowing - thick flakes piled against the doors and covered the fields with a carpet of white. And, in one of the lonely farmhouses on the Canadian prairie, a child was about to be born.

The child's father, John, paced the floor of the living room. He was anxious. It was now three hours since his wife Jessie had begun to feel birth pangs. This was to be their first child. They were both old, and they had wanted a child for a long time.

'I wish the doctor had been able to come', thought John. 'If only the snow hadn't been so deep... But what am I worrying about? Jessie's mother is up there with her. She's experienced and will look after her daughter.'

As John sat in front of the fireplace, he heard a knock at the door. Imagining that it might perhaps be the doctor, he was surprised, almost fearful, to find on the step, a man he had never seen before.

"Will you give me shelter?" asked the stranger.

John hesitated. But seeing the stranger's bad appearance, snow blanketing his coat and even clinging to his hair, John invited him in. He helped the stranger off with his coat and said that he could spend the night in front of the fire. He also gave the stranger food to eat and the man was grateful.

"Why are you out on a snowy night?" asked John.

"I have much to do," replied the stranger. "And I have far to go."

John thought him odd; but questioned him no more. The stranger warmed himself in silence

in front of the fire for a while. John then told the stranger that Jessie was at that moment giving birth to their first child in the room above.

"I know," said the stranger.

"How did you know?" asked John.

"I heard her cry out," came the reply.

But John had heard no sound.

The child was born at two o' clock in the morning. It was born dead. Jessie fell into an exhausted sleep. Her mother went downstairs to tell John.

John was numb with despair. When he looked at the table spread with all the good things for christmas, there was no joy in him any more.

"What was it?" he asked.

"A boy," said Jessie's mother. "Would you like to see him?"

"I would," answered John. "Then I'll take him away. I wouldn't like Jessie to see him... not dead."

John went upstairs and looked lovingly at his sleeping wife. He was thankful that she had not been taken from him as well. He gazed at the pathetic little body in the cradle. He lifted him out and carried him then downstairs.

John stood holding the child, and his silence was his sorrow. The stranger asked if he might take the child. Saying nothing, John gave the child to him. The stranger rocked the child in his arms and kissed the child's forehead.

"Why do you do that?" asked Jessie's mother. "The child is dead."

"He needs to be made warm," said the stranger.

"But he's dead," repeated Jessie's mother.

The stranger smiled and continued to rock the child. And John watching, saw the child's eyelids flutter and heard him cry out!

"Why, you have performed a miracle!" shouted John.

"You have brought the child back

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Dear Readers,

* You are most welcome to send in your contributions to **Gokulam** either by post or by e-mail.

Remember every contribution sent by you should give details of your **- Name, Age, Class, Name and address of school, Residential address and a declaration stating that the contribution is your original creation (if not, the source must be mentioned).**

However, we cannot guarantee that your contribution will be published. It is also not possible for us to tell you when it will be published. But, if you require your contribution to be sent back to you on rejection, then you must enclose a self addressed, stamped envelope.

- Editor

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE

You will receive a **participation certificate** from us if your contribution is published. At the end of the one year period ending June 2005, the person with most number of participation certificates will receive a special prize. Start rightaway!

from death!"

"He was not dead," said the stranger. "He had never lived."

He gave the child to Jessie's mother. "Quickly!" he said, "Take him upstairs to his mother before she wakes up." He then turned to John. "And now" he said, "I must be on my way."

John did not know what to do. "You must stay!" he said. "You must stay with us forever."

But the stranger stood at the door putting on his coat.

"Atleast stay for christmas," pleaded John. "Look, I have all these good things." He pointed to the table. "And you who brought our happiness should share it."

But the stranger would not stay. Thanking John for his kindness, he opened the door and walked out across the snow.

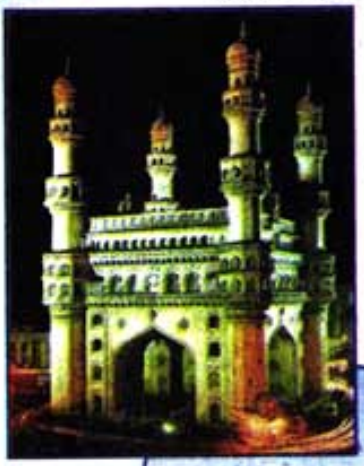
It had stopped snowing. John stood at the door, watching the stranger until he was out of sight. Then, as he turned to go indoor, he was filled with wonder, for, he saw that the stranger had left no footprints on the snow.

P. Aiswarya, Std VIII,
Holy Angels' Anglo Indian H.S.S.
Chennai

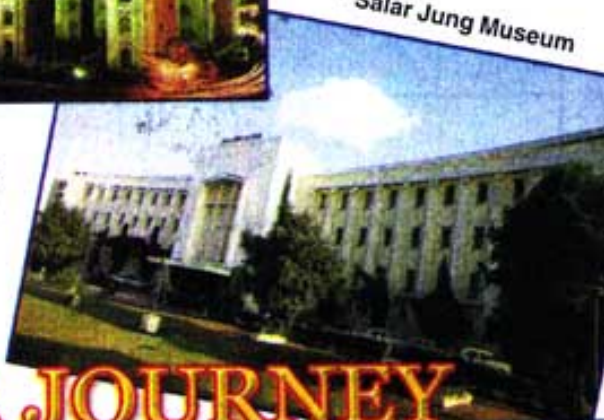
Dear readers,

A somewhat similar story is found in Hindu mythology too and is attributed to "Thayumanavar" (One who also became the mother) enshrined in the Rockfort, Trichy. Tamilnadu.

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIMELESS ART



* Charminar



* Salar Jung Museum

* Nawab Salar Jung

A trip to Hyderabad is incomplete without a visit to the Salar Jung Museum. Usually, museums are created and maintained by the government as part of their duty to educate people. But the Salar Jung Museum is a collection of antiques and artefacts belonging to a single person, Nawab Salar Jung III (1889 - 1949 A.D.). It is the largest private collection of an individual and displays bronze idols, wood and ivory carvings, rare paintings, ancient weapons of war, carriages, clocks and even furniture of artistic value. The list is of course incomplete.

Located near the Charminar, the museum can be easily reached by tourists and over the years has attracted millions of them. None of them, even after having spent hours in the museum, would have seen all. Neither would they have felt satisfied.

But all of them would have invariably seen three items on display and would have marvelled at their beauty.

1.The veiled Rebecca of Benzoni :

Often referred to as "Melody in Marble" this statue of a woman has been carved by G.B. Benzoni of Italy from a single marble piece! The woman stands wearing a veil over her face, but one can see her charming shy face through the marble veil! A splendid creation indeed!

2. The wooden Double Statue :

Carved from a single piece of wood, this French sculpture is considered to be one of the best of its times. The front part of this statue is that of a man (Mephistophles) with his head raised high exhibiting a cold smile, while the back depicts a woman (Margaretta)

lowering her head seemingly in pain. A wonderful specimen of great workmanship.

3. The Grandfather Clock

This is a very, very old specimen, but still gives not only the exact time but also the day, date, month and year. It chimes every hour and one should time his or her visit in order to hear the same.

The art gallery is a separate section housing wonderful paintings and can be easily considered as a treasure house. M.F. Hussain and Ravi Varma find a place here besides great European artists.

Well, the list of items is too long and can fill up several pages. But all of them have one thing in common. They defy description and should be seen and enjoyed. Surely it is a place which will leave you dazed with the glitter and dazzle of timeless art.

- R. Abhinaya Rao, Std.XI,
Sri Chaitanya Junior Kalasala,
Hyderabad

CALLING FOR CONTRIBUTIONS!

Dear Children,

Here's an opportunity for your parents. Get them to contribute to the **'Parents' Page'**. Remember! These two pages are exclusive to parents of Gokulam Readers.

You may cover a special event taking place in your school. Get your coverage certified by your school principal or class teacher and mail it to **'School Slot'**.

Write to : Gokulam, 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 097

Budding Chef

LIP SMACKING!

MANGALORE BONDA

Ingredients :

Refined Flour (maida) - 500 gms
Bengal Gram Flour - 2 tbsp
Buttermilk - 100 ml
Sugar - 2 tsp
Green Chillies (chopped)- 2/3
Ginger (chopped) - 1 inch
Water - 100 ml
Salt to taste
Oil for deep frying

Method :

Make a batter with maida, bengal gram flour, buttermilk, water, sugar, salt, green chillies and ginger. Mix well. Keep aside for an hour. Heat oil in a frying pan and drop the batter into it with a spoon. Deep fry till golden brown. Serve hot with tomato ketchup.

S. Sunita, Std.X, Vishakapatnam

DATES HALWA

Ingredients :

Seedless Dates - 50 gm

Sugar - 3 tbsp
Milk - 1 cup
Ghee - 1/4 cup

Method :

Slice the dates into small pieces. Add to the milk. Heat the milk and keep stirring well adding ghee at regular intervals. Take off from the stove when the mixture becomes thick. Heat sugar with some water to form sugar syrup. Mix the ingredients by pouring the sugar syrup into it. Allow to cool. Garnish with finely sliced cashew and badam. Serve with lots of love!

Deepa Ramani, Age 16, Chennai

BANANA SQUASH

Ingredients :

Ripe Banana - 2
Sugar - 2/3 tsp
Water - ¼ cup
Honey - 1 tsp
Cashews chopped for decoration.

Method :

Chop the bananas. Add water and sugar and grind well in a mixie. Add honey and mix well. Pour into tall glasses. Decorate with chopped cashews, chill and drink with relish!

Ra.Aadhirai, Std.VIII, K.V., Chennai

Story

THE ARROGANT

Once upon a time, there lived a sculptor named Rajapandian who was a master in his art. His idols and statues carved from wood or stone, looked as if they were real. They were sold all over the country and abroad too. He had won many awards for his works of art. But as he began to earn name, fame and money, he became very arrogant.

One day a palmist looked at his palm and predicted, "You are going to die in a few days."

The sculptor decided to cheat Yamraj, the God of death, by using his art. He made six identical statues of himself. If he stood among the statues, no one could really say who the real sculptor was!

He believed that even Yamraj could not identify him from among the statues.

On the appointed day, Rajapandian laid the statues and himself in a row.

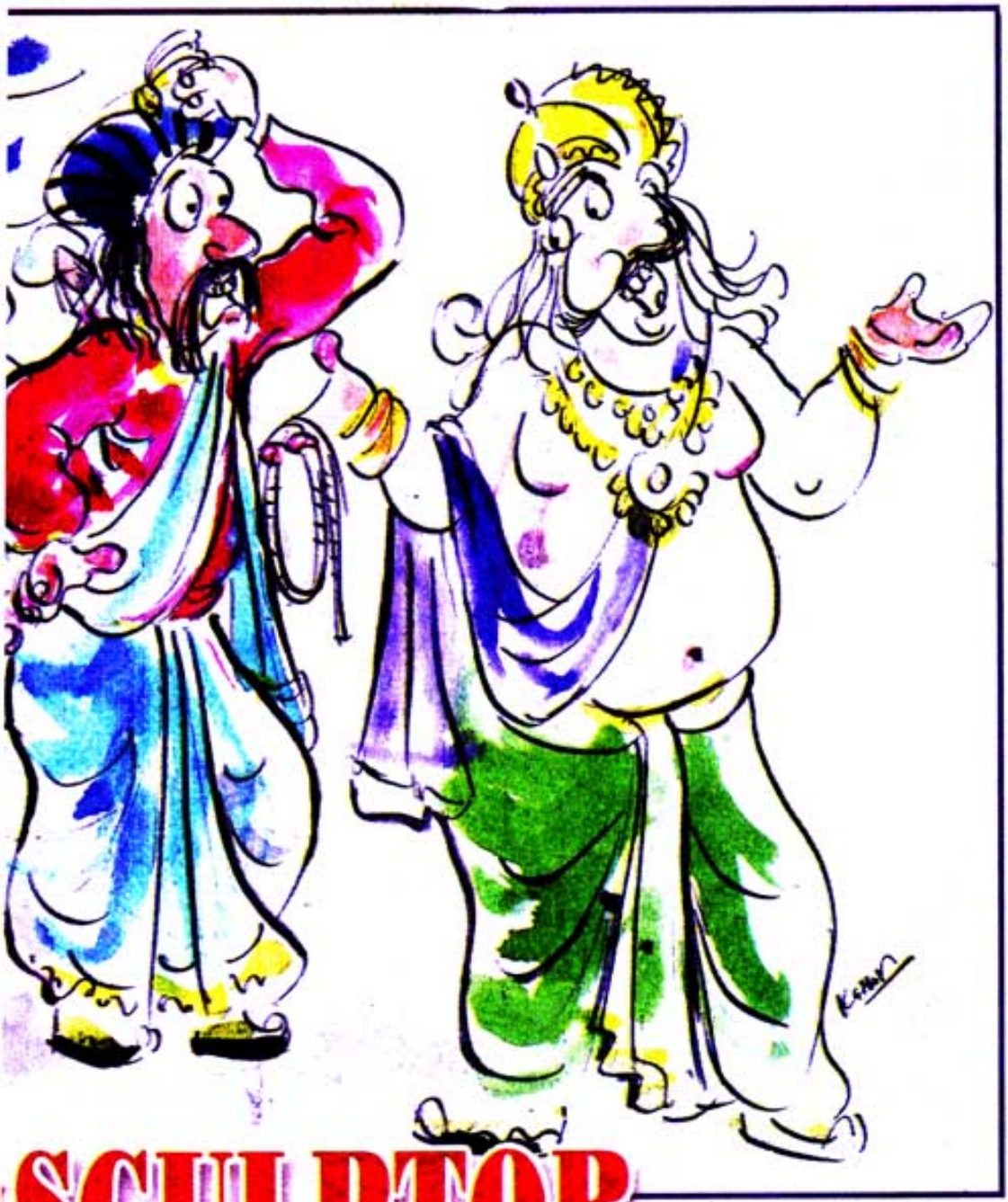
Yamraj arrived punctually to take the sculptor's life away. He saw not one but seven Rajapandians! It was indeed very difficult for Yamraj to find the real one.

Suddenly, Yamraj had an idea. He smilingly said, "Wonderful! Oh, Rajapandia! You have confused me by making six statues that look exactly like you. But there is a small mistake in your statues."

These words of Yamraj hurt Rajapandian's ego. He got up at once and said, "What mistake are you talking about?"

"Well, this is it!" exclaimed Yamraj catching the hand of Rajapandian.

"As soon as you heard that there was a small mistake in your statues, your ego was hurt. So you reacted at once. If you had not made this



SCULPTOR

Moral : Never be proud of your talents.

mistake, it would have been very difficult for me to identify you" said Yamraj and took him away promptly.

Story retold from a moral story book by - **B. Dilip, Std.VI, S.I.A.H.S., Kopar Dom (W), Mumbai**

Dear readers,

Gokulam enters its seventeenth year. We take this opportunity to thank all of you for your participation and contribution.

Gokulam is your magazine - a magazine for children, by children. As always, we eagerly look forward to more and more from you.

You must be aware that participation certificates are issued to those of you whose contributions are published in Gokulam. You must also be aware that a special prize awaits the person who has received maximum number of certificates from us for the year.

The time has come now for you to count your certificates. Those of you who have received five or more participation certificates from us (July 2003 - June 2004) please send in xerox copies of the certificates along with a covering letter giving details of your name, class, school and residential address.

On verification at our end, we shall get back to the person with the maximum number of certificates for his or her photograph.

You know we can't wait endlessly. Hurry up and send in your letter along with copies of the certificates so as to reach us before **July 20, 2004.**

The scheme continues for this year too (July 2004 to June 2005). So, keep sending in your contributions, collect your participation certificates and keep them carefully. You may be the winner next year!

Editor

Happy Birthday Gokulam!

Gift Gokulam to your friends

Gift a one-year subscription.

Gift a two-year subscription.

Return Gift from Gokulam

Your existing subscription extended by another three months. (offer valid until October 15, 2004)

Get a book 'Fat is Beautiful and other Jayabalan Stories' - worth Rs.39.50 free! (until stocks last)

FILL IN THE DETAILS AND SEND IT TO US NOW!

My friend :	*Myself :*
Name : _____	**Name :** _____
Address : _____	**Address :** _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	**Subscription No :** _____

To
The Circulation Manager
GOKULAM (English), 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,
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Dear Sir,

I hereby introduce Gokulam to my friend _____ _____. I have enclosed Rs.96/- / Rs.192/- (by DD / MO / Cheque*) towards an annual / two-year subscription in his / her name. Kindly extend my subscription period by another three months / send me the book, as a gift to me from you.

Regards,

(Signature)

★ Add Rs.20/- for outstation cheques
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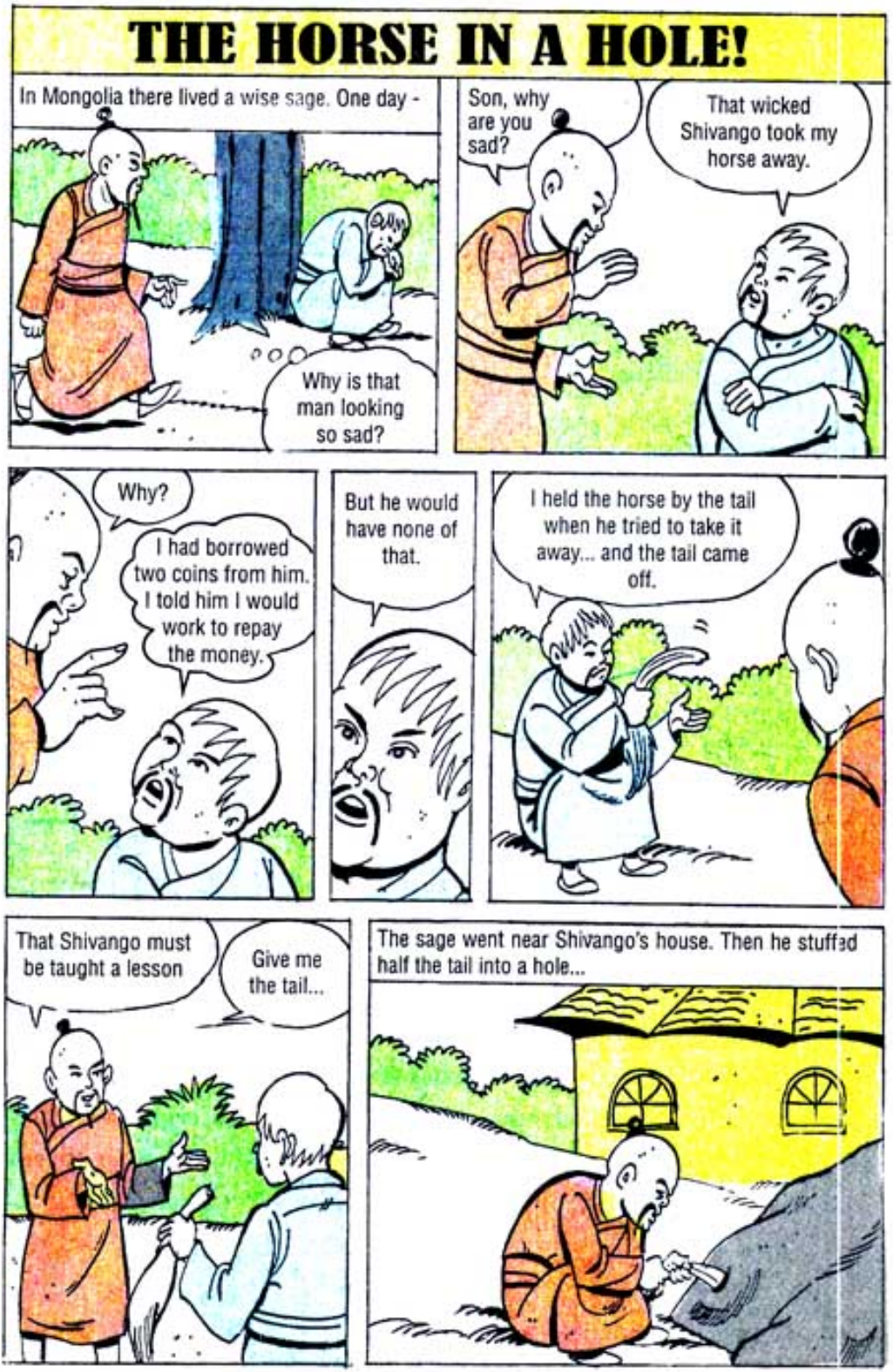
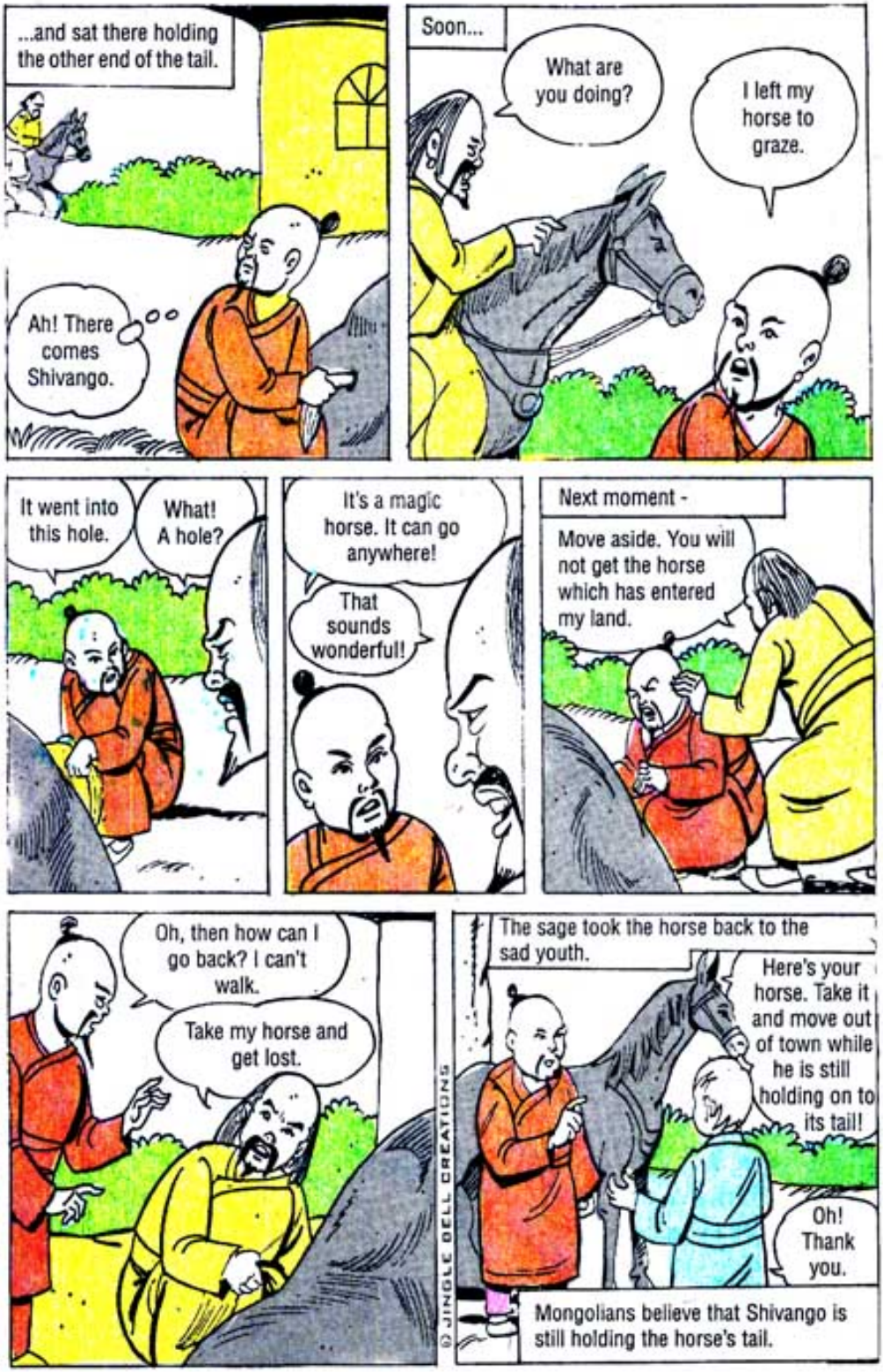
THE HORSE IN A HOLE!




...and sat there holding the other end of the tail.
Ah! There comes Shivango.
Soon...
What are you doing?
I left my horse to graze.
It went into this hole.
What! A hole?
It's a magic horse. It can go anywhere!
That sounds wonderful!
Next moment -
Move aside. You will not get the horse which has entered my land.
Oh, then how can I go back? I can't walk.
Take my horse and get lost.
© JINGLE BELL CREATIONS
The sage took the horse back to the sad youth.
Here's your horse. Take it and move out of town while he is still holding on to its tail!
Oh! Thank you.
Mongolians believe that Shivango is still holding the horse's tail.

Grandma Worm

Please help.

Sona, Chennai
Nishtha Roy, Mumbai

Dear Grandma worm,

I am more interested in sports than in studies. I received a gold medal in sports but in studies I hold only the 22nd rank in class. How do I shape my future?

S. Samuel, Chennai

Dear Samuel,

You need not feel sorry that you are not quite upto the mark in studies. While it is absolutely necessary to get at least pass marks so that you can complete schooling, you can pursue sports to your best advantage. There are special colleges for physical education in which you can join and get a degree. This will help you in your career in sports. The other possibility is that you can take up a job as a physical training teacher in a school or college.

★★★

My best friend, after she has taken charge as the class leader, avoids me and also prevents other friends from talking to me.

Dear Sona and Nishtha,

Both of you have the same problem if not exactly the same. Your best friend has suddenly turned against you, and talks ill of you to other friends. This makes you unhappy. To get back peace of mind, ask yourself, 'what went wrong?'

Did you commit any mistake? Did you act or talk in a way that could have hurt your best friend? If the answer is 'yes', go to your best friend and apologize without any reservation. If the answer is in the negative, then go to your best friend and ask her straight away why she is behaving so. Tell her that you feel sad and that you will be happy to be friends with her once again. Promise her that you will be willing to make some adjustments provided you know what is bothering her. Remember, friendship needs a lot of give and take. There are instances in real life and in

GOLD MEDAL IN SPORTS

literature where characters have made great sacrifices for the sake of friendship.

★★★

I love watching cartoons on T.V. But my mother chides me and says that watching cartoons will not help maturity of the mind. Please advise.

Anurag Reddy, Hyderabad

Dear Anurag,

I have to disagree with your mother to a certain extent if not entirely. Watching cartoons will not affect maturity of the mind. In fact if you get to understand the message in the cartoon it will help your mind to mature. But anything that is overdone is bad. If you are always watching cartoons while neglecting other activities like sports, homework, helping at home etc., then cartoons are

definitely having a bad influence over you. Your health, especially your eyes will be spoilt. Allot just half an hour for your favourite programme every day and be done with it.

★★★

Social science is very tough for me. I am not able to learn it by heart. Please help.

R. Swathi Priya, Navi Mumbai

I study so much for maths. But I don't get good marks. What should I do?

Karuna Veeramani, Mumbai

Dear Swathi and Karuna,

If you are good at other subjects and have difficulty in only one subject you need not worry. For the very fact that you are good at other subjects proves that you are intelligent. The difficulty you face in just one subject may be due to (1) The teacher not being adequate; (2) Your lack of interest in the subjects; (3) Your inability to understand the subject.

22nd RANK IN CLASS!

If you are not interested, nobody can help you. You must make up your mind to get involved, since it is essential you pass with good marks. If you are unable to understand, you must have the courage to go to your teacher or to someone who really knows the subject and ask his or her help. Don't ever mug up. Reading by rote is like eating the skin of the fruit and not its flesh.

Love,
Grandma worm

Dear Readers,

Please note that letters without complete addresses will not be considered.

- Editor

HOW THE STUMP SEES

Is Sachin out? The fielders were screaming an appeal. The umpire was hesitating. Time for an action replay.

Raja does not watch action replays. He turns his head to the left (lucky side) and mutters a quick prayer . But towards the end he sneaks a peek to watch the stump vision replay. He loves that. The view where the ball seems to zoom out of the screen at you and misses the stumps with a "shrrr...."

For the thousandth time he wonders, "How do they do it?!"

"With a Hitachi KP-D8 microcamera, of course," came the answer.

"Who said that?" he asked, in a startled whisper, almost to himself.

"Me. Viz. And I didn't **say** it. I just communicated to your brain. Thought transfer, you see!"

This was getting crazier. " Listen, please, whoever you are... Tell me who you are and what this trick is about...."

Raja did not even say it. He had to think it and an answer flashed in his mind: " Look at your watch dial,"

Raja got goosebumps. But his eyes automatically checked his watch dial. There sitting on number twelve, was a shining speck of metal.

" Silicon dust. Rolled off your computer. I have learnt a lot of techy stuff. So shoot..."

Raja was now getting irritated with this Smart Silicon, or whatever. So he thought he would test it.

" Ready," came Viz's answer, as usual, even before Raja could ask.

Raja : **"Who used the Stump Cam first?"**

Viz : It was used first in official cricket by BBC in 1990s. However, early Stump Camera installations were experimented by Australian TV broadcast channels (7 and 9), during the

Kerry Packer series in the seventies.

Raja : **How does it work?**

Viz (Seeming to express a superior smile): All smart things have a bit of silicon in them. There is a light sensitive imaging chip inside the camera. Each fraction of it receives tiny bits of light (and the picture before it) and reassembles it.

Raja : **Everybody says it is a "digital camera". What does that mean? (I am only in the sixth class, you know!)**

Viz : No problem, Raja! Digital cameras work like other cameras, they

have a viewfinder, lens, shutter etc, but the difference is , no film. They store the picture as if files are stored in computers. Here in the stump camera, pictures viewed by it are sent through a thin cable that goes through the stump and underground below the pitch and reaches the computer of the Production Van, where the editor decides when to use the pictures from it. Like any other computer related equipment, the camera needs a software programme, with which shots can be selected, displayed, stored etc.

Raja : **But it is so tiny. What can it do?**

Viz : Small is amazing Raja. Look at me. I am just a speck. And think of the dinosaur, so big and so stupid!

Anyway, the stump cam is actually a video cam that can record pictures at a very fast rate. It can operate at very low lights. And just like the human eye widens in the darkness and contracts in bright light, it has a "fixed lens iris" that can adjust according to the light availability.

The stump is slightly bigger and hollowed out to fit two cameras, instead of one. One takes long shots and the other close ups. !!!

Whopeee!! Raja was overjoyed. Viz knows all. He was going to keep him happy. Maybe he will take him to the exam hall!

Dear Readers,

For details of an interactive session on this column, please turn to page 46.

Hello, Doctor!

Do Chocolates

• R. Lalitha, Chennai

? My mother says that chocolates cause pimples. Is it true, doctor?

! Over the years, acne prone teenagers have been warned of different edibles ranging from chocolates to oily foods. However, medical science knows that pimples are basically caused by overactive sebaceous glands of the skin. These glands produce copious amount of oil called sebum during the adolescence period under the influence of androgen hormone. Sebum, which is thick and sticky, blocks the glands and hair follicles. Sebum is usually removed through open pores on the skin but these pores now become clogged with hardened sebum. The tip of the clogged sebum, which is exposed to air, turns black. The swelling around these blackheads results in pimples. As for chocolates causing pimples, researchers discount their role.

• L. Anitha, Kollam

? Grandma says 'scalp massages promote hair growth'. How far is this true?

! It is true, Anitha. A scalp massage increases the flow of oxygen and nutrients to the hair roots by toning up circulation. This promotes hair growth. Some important causes for hair fall are anxiety, stress and depression. Scalp massage reduces stress and promotes relaxation, making us feel invigorated.

• G. Vaishnavidevi, Pudukottai

? 'If you don't get out of those wet clothes, you'll catch a cold.' How true is this statement?

! Wet clothes do not cause a cold. Different types of viruses cause it. What is true is, that if you have an allergy to cold conditions, it can be aggravated by dampness from wet clothes.

CASE FILE - 13

THE ACCUSATION

LOGIC BEHIND THE CASE ON PAGES 12 AND 13

The window was opened by Ramshekar. How could the old lady have seen what had happened outside through the closed window?

Cause Pimples?

Apart from this, there is a very high risk of getting fungal infections in the moist, humid conditions provided by damp clothes.

• Narayan Guru, Bangalore

? Is it true that reading in dim light will ruin our eyesight?

! It is true, Narayan. Our eyes usually adjust to dim light. The iris contracts and the pupil enlarges, admitting more light into the interior of the eyes. If this happens regularly, the dim light makes the eyes feel tired and creates tension and headache. Shortsight too may develop very soon.

• S. Vimala, Chennai

? My mother says that microwave cooking destroys nutrients. Is this true, doctor?

! Not true, Vimala. It is actually a gentler form of cooking. It won't change the molecular structure of nutrients. It is in fact the best way of cooking vegetables to retain the optimal level of vitamins and minerals. Also, microwave cooking requires lesser time

and it uses less water than steaming or boiling. So, water soluble vitamins are less likely to be affected.

Dr. G. GANESAN

Imagine a bird taking off from the far end of western Siberia, flying over the Ural mountains and the Caspian sea, then through the high mountain passes in Pakistan's northwest frontier before emerging on to the mildly warm winter plains of northern India! It finally lands in the Bharatpur

A BIRD'S PARADISE!

bird sanctuary which offers an excellent nesting ground with abundant food from November to February.

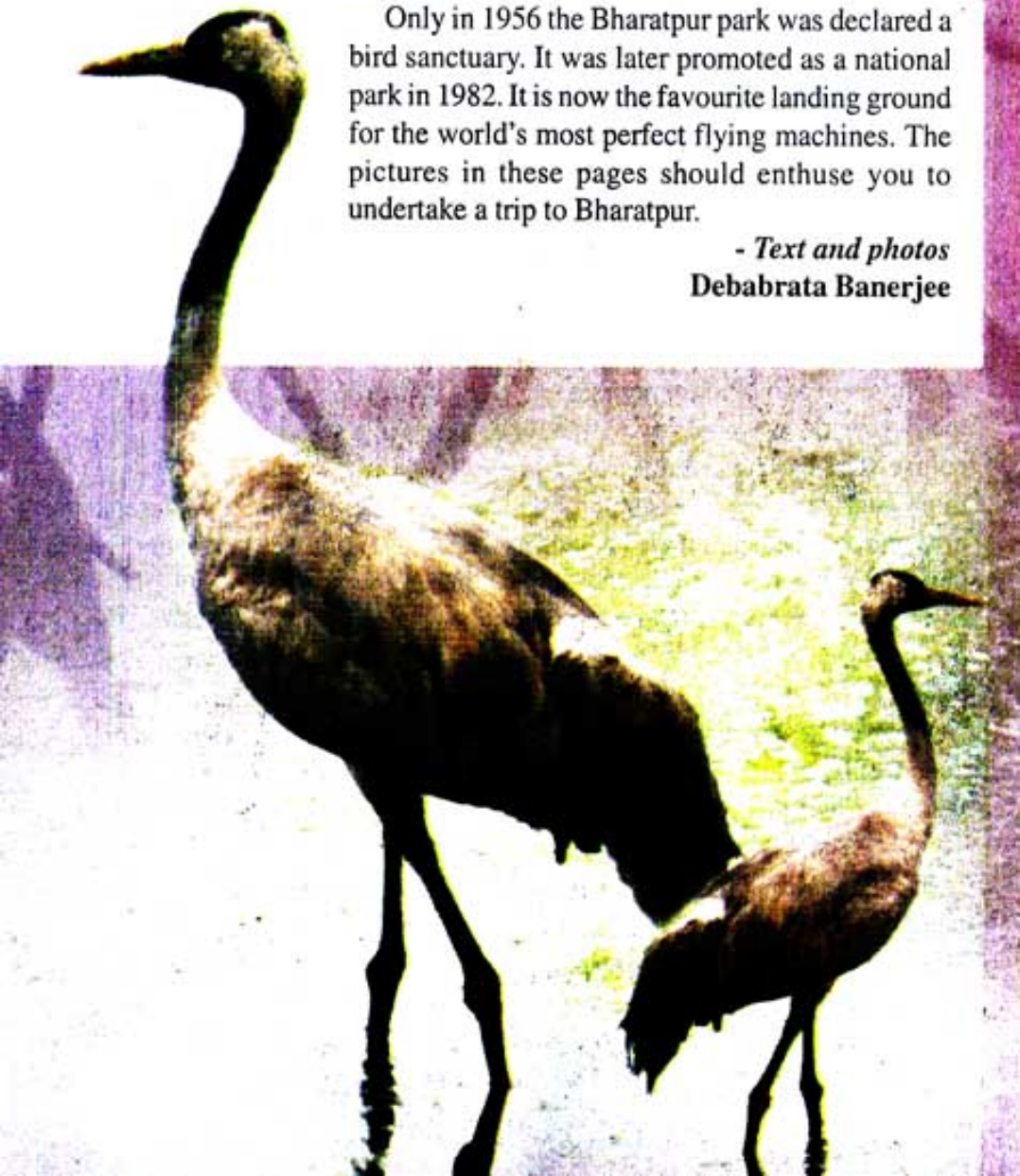
Not one, but thousands of birds thus make a trip every year seeking a more hospitable climate. They know precisely when to come and when to return!

Better known among the birds are herons, spoonbills, storks, cormorants, darters and egrets. They do not have sign posts or even a compass. Yet they don't lost their way! Their sense of direction is amazing indeed!

Bharatpur was well known even during the early 19th Century. Unfortunately, it became famous as a hunting ground for the Maharajas to whom the land belonged.

Only in 1956 the Bharatpur park was declared a bird sanctuary. It was later promoted as a national park in 1982. It is now the favourite landing ground for the world's most perfect flying machines. The pictures in these pages should enthuse you to undertake a trip to Bharatpur.

- Text and photos
Debabrata Banerjee



ORDER, ORDER, ORDER...

Order, order, order... most of our Indian movies picturise a court room where these words are uttered followed by a dramatic court scene. At the end of the scene justice prevails!!! Wish real life was as easy as reel life!!

The profession of Law is a highly competitive business and it requires a lot of effort to make a mark. The initial years offer modest returns. With experience and expertise, the following years are promising.

THE PATH :

The path towards a law degree and the practice thereafter takes careful planning and time.

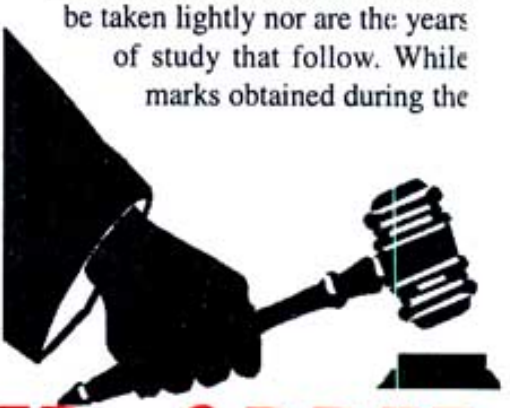
There are two kinds of courses: the 3 year course and the 5 year course. The basic eligibility for the three year course is a Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a recognized university. The basic eligibility for the five year course is 10+2. There are various colleges and universities in India offering a course in Law. The most well - known college is the National Law School of India at Bangalore which was set up by the Bar Council of India.

THE PROCESS :

The admission process to these law schools/ universities is very similar and based on a national level entrance test comprising of the following subjects :

(a) General Knowledge (b) General English (c) Legal Aptitude (d) Reasoning and (e) Essay (f) Elementary science

The entrance test is by no means to be taken lightly nor are the years of study that follow. While marks obtained during the



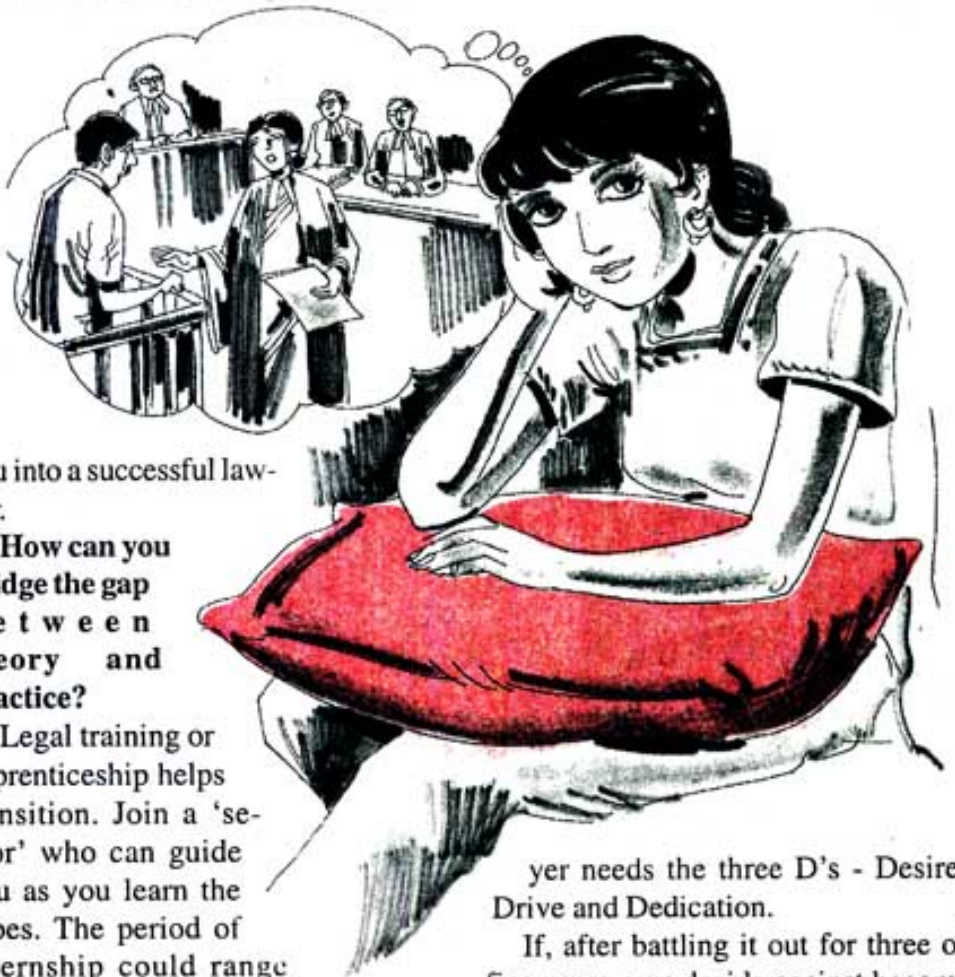
course do not directly correlate with success in practice, good marks do help make an impression especially if you intend doing your masters in the field.

Unlike the field of medicine where a post graduation is now a days becoming a must, the postgraduate course in law is not considered mandatory. Says a well-known lawyer, "LLM is not necessary for practice but it does give a wider perspective and a whole new insight as to how to approach law".

What they don't teach you at Law School :

The LLB course gives you a degree required to practice law. It does not turn

Offered by Careersindia



you into a successful lawyer.

How can you bridge the gap between theory and practice?

Legal training or apprenticeship helps transition. Join a 'senior' who can guide you as you learn the ropes. The period of internship could range anywhere between a few months to a couple of years.

There are various fields of specialisation - Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Civil Law, Corporate Law etc.

What makes a successful lawyer?

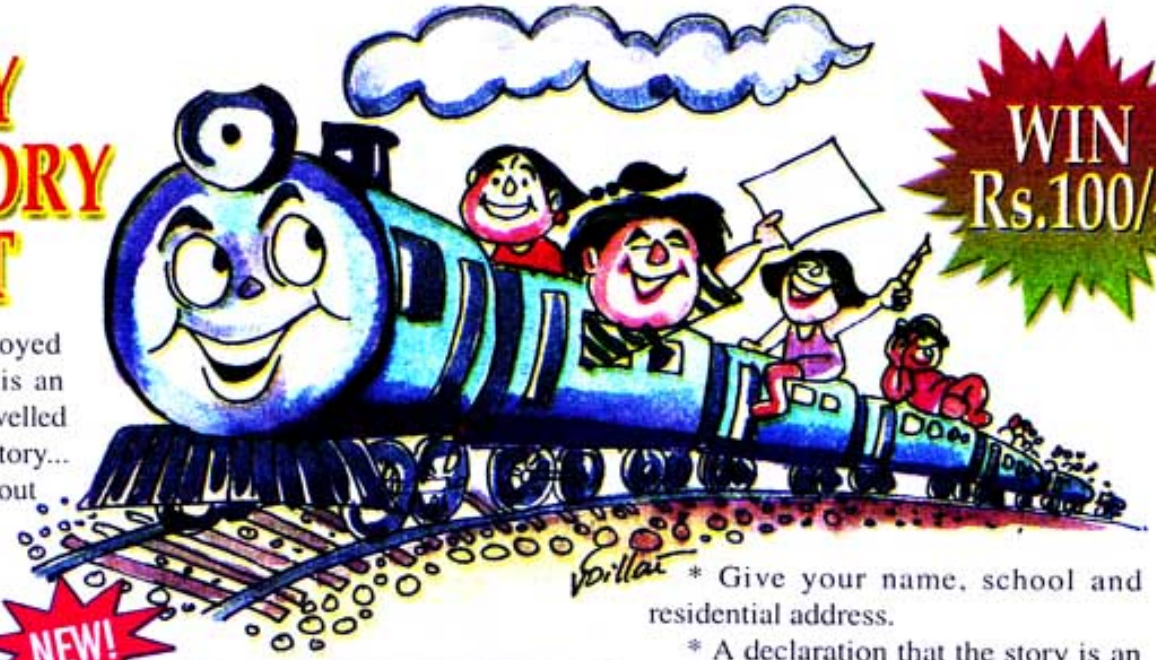
A sharp mind, clarity of thought, ability to analyse situations and people, ability to think on one's feet, confidence and good communication skills.

As said by one lawyer, a good lawyer needs the three D's - Desire, Drive and Dedication.

If, after battling it out for three or five years, you decide against becoming a full time practising lawyer, there is a good demand for people with a qualification in law in the Civil Services or in Personnel Management and Industrial Relations. Teaching is yet another option.

Next Month :
JOURNALISM
Feedback to :
gokulam@careersindia.com

A REALLY 'SHORT' STORY CONTEST



WIN Rs.100/-

Hey Kids! Hope you enjoyed your summer vacation. Here is an opportunity for all those who travelled to other places to pen a short story... and those who did not venture out can dream up one featuring a **"TRAIN"**. To ensure a level playing ground for all of you,

NEW!

your story must have **"A BAG OF DIAMONDS"**.

So children, put on your thinking caps. In not more than **350 words,** write a thrilling original story and rush in your entries to

Last Date : 19.07.2004

Gokulam
47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,
Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 097

* The best entry will receive a prize of Rs.100/-
* Strictly for school going children.
* Give your name, school and residential address.
* A declaration that the story is an original creation must be sent with your entry.
* The prize wining story will appear in the September 2004 issue of Gokulam.
* Next short story contest announcement August 2004.
* Mention 'Short Story Contest' on the envelope.
* Editor's decision is final.

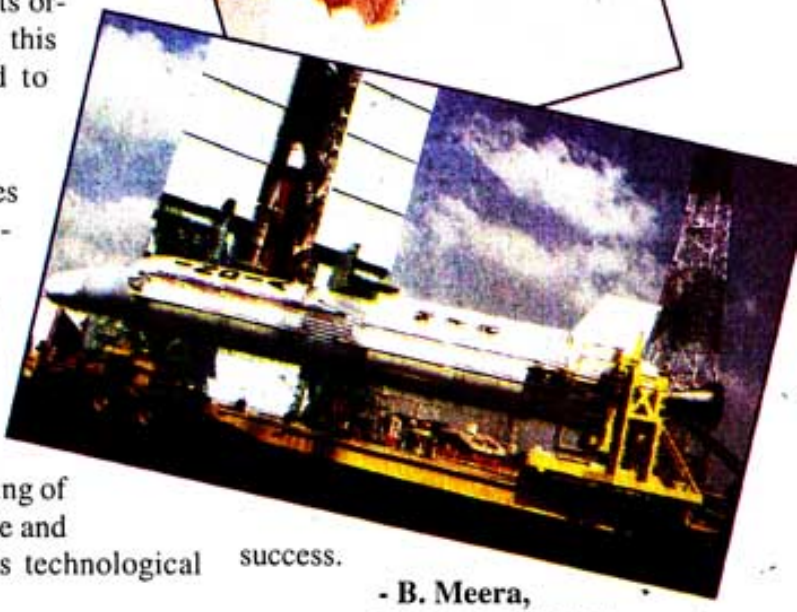
Article

'CHANDRAYAN'- INDIA'S MISSION TO THE MOON!

For ages Indian mothers have drawn the attention of their children to the moon shining in the sky, especially at dinner time. But the day is not far off when parents will take their children to the moon for a picnic!

Space technology has improved so much and India is not to be left behind.

India's mission to the moon will initially be without an astronaut on board the space craft. Named "Chandrayan-I", India's first mission to the moon is likely to be achieved by the year 2008, and will cost Rs.386 crores! Weighing 525 kg. in its orbit around the moon, this satellite is expected to work for two years.



The main objectives of India's moon mission are,

(a) preparing a three dimensional atlas of regions of scientific interest on the moon,

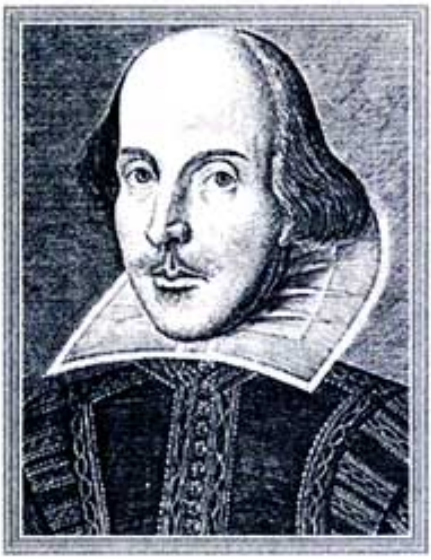
(b) chemical mapping of the entire Inner surface and

(c) proving India's technological capability.

Let us all wish India's Chandrayan-I, mission to the moon, a grand success.

- B. Meera,
Std.VI-B, K.V., Chennai

Source : Press Information Bureau



SPOT IT RIGHT 6

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS GIVEN:

1. *William Shakespeare*
2. *Stratford upon Avon*
3. *A pound of flesh.*
4. *Hamlet in "Hamlet".*
5. *Ariel*

Congratulations to the winners!

The 5 lucky winners are :

1. M. Pradyum, Std.X, A.R.R.M.H.S.S., Kumbakonam

2. R. Shalyma, Std.IX, Bharat Senior Sec. School, Chennai

3. P. Utharapriyadharshini, Std.XI, Kendriya Vidyalaya Air Force Station, Thane (West)

4. Vinanthika Ravi, Std.VII, Salwan Public School, New Delhi

5. P. Aswin, Std.VIII, Pilkave H.S., Kozhikode, Kerala

Dear Readers,

Viz knows all! If you have any questions on 'Techy stuff', send them to Viz. Questions must be sent only on a postcard with your name, age, class, school and residential address clearly mentioned. Only one question per postcard. If your entry is selected and published you will win a prize.

Last date for August issue : ***5.7.2004.***

Address it to :

VIZ, C/o Gokulam,

47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,

Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 097.

Jokes Page

GUFFAW WITH GUP & GAS!

Teacher : Belliyappa, tell me, why do we see lightning first and hear thunder later?

Belliyappa : Easy Miss. Our eyes are in front and ears only behind them!

- M.Poorvik, Std. VI, Bangalore

Charan : Miss, can I please keep this rabbit with me, during maths class?

Teacher : What on earth for?

Charan : My father says they multiply very fast!

- S. Chitra, Std.VII, Birla School, Kalyan (W)

Sunil : Did the play have a happy ending?

Raghu : Yes, everybody in the audience were really happy when the play ended!

- S. Sriram, Chennai

Venkat : I have more bones in my body than you!

Rahul : That's impossible!

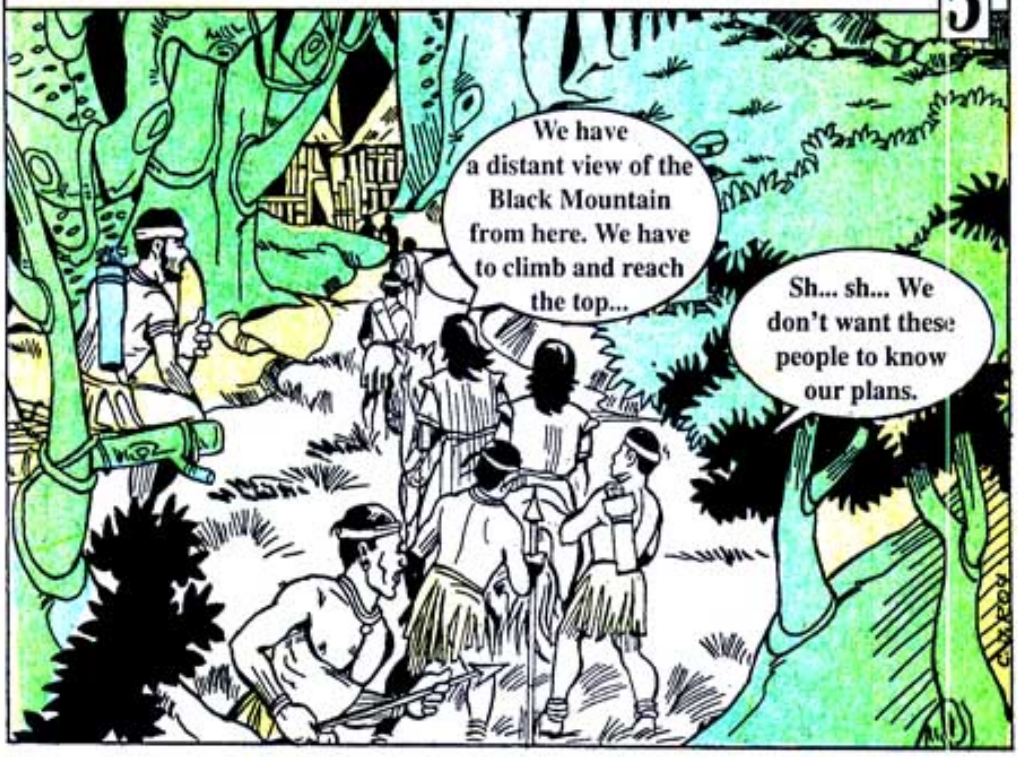
Venkat : Why not? I swallowed a fish bone at lunch!

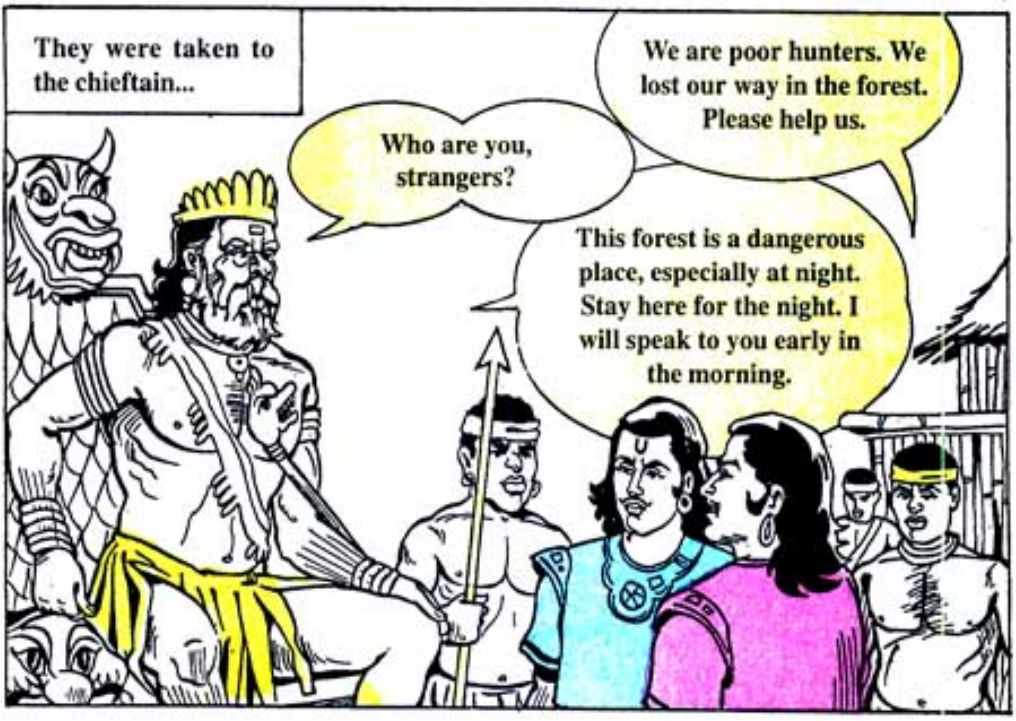
- Iswarya, P.V.A. School, Ranipet

THE WHITE FLOWER ADVENTURE

Script : Mohan.C. **Art : C.J.Roy**

5

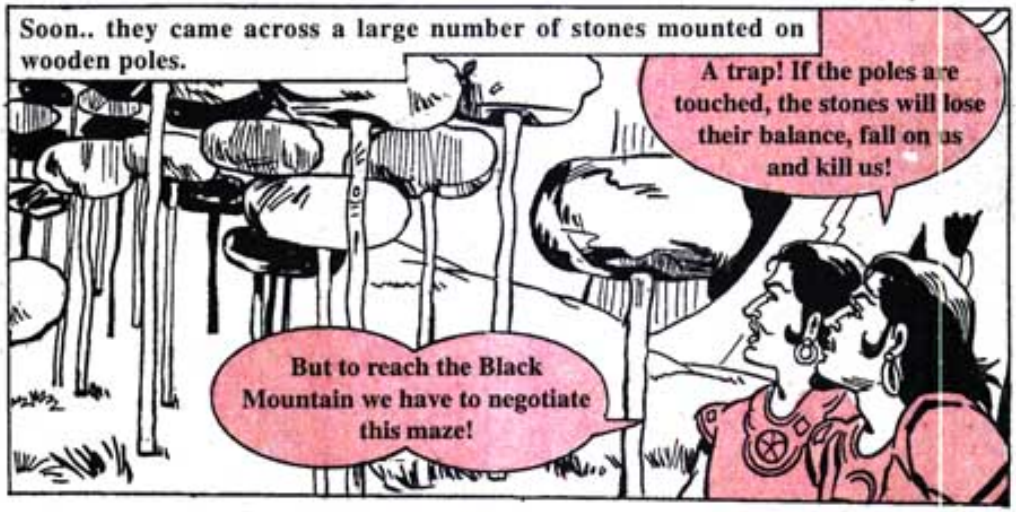


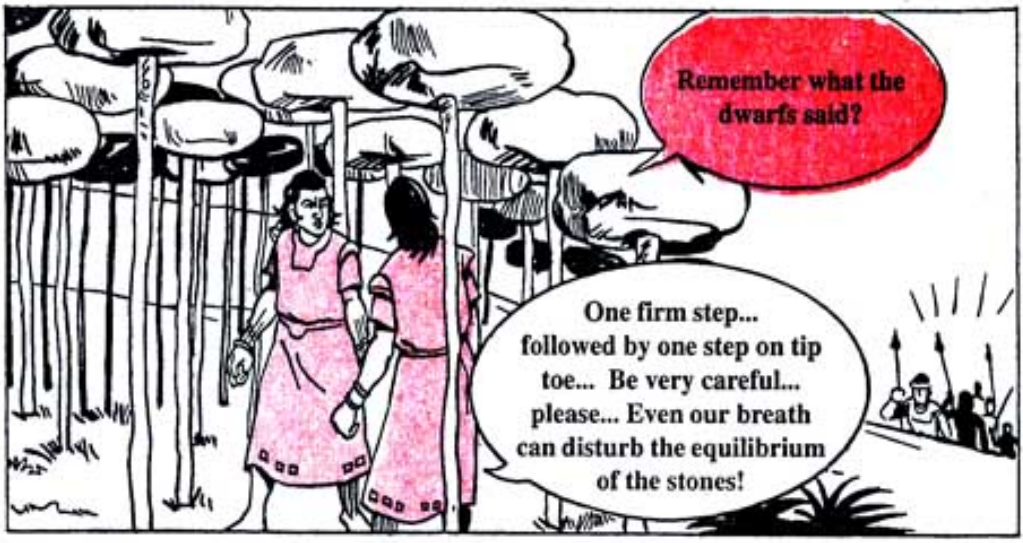


Remember, those dwarfs had advised us not to accept anybody's hospitality. It might be dangerous to stay here.
After a while they came out of the hut, stealthily...
No one to be seen anywhere.
Before long...
Sh.. Sh... The tribals are holding a meeting. Listen carefully.
I suspect they have come to climb the Black Mountain. But they can't reach the summit easily. They won't survive the dangers in store for them...
However, let us not take any risks. Better to kill them, now!

Come along! We must climb the Black Mountain before we are caught...
Let us hurry, before they find us missing.

Early morning...
Hey! What's that noise?
The tribals have found us, Amar! Run... quickly!


Soon.. they came across a large number of stones mounted on wooden poles.
A trap! If the poles are touched, the stones will lose their balance, fall on us and kill us!
But to reach the Black Mountain we have to negotiate this maze!


Remember what the dwarfs said?
One firm step... followed by one step on tip toe... Be very careful... please... Even our breath can disturb the equilibrium of the stones!

Straining every nerve they successfully crossed over to the other side.
The tribals are used to this. They will surely come after us.
I have an idea!

After all the tribals had entered the area of the mounted stones, Amar selected a large stone from the ground, took aim, and threw it towards one pole...
(To be continued...)

Picture Essay

RIVER HORSES AND LEAPING FISHES

The English language has always been growing and continues to grow. That is why it is considered as an international language. The secret behind its growth is its ability to borrow words from other languages and make them its own! Most of the words in English have their roots in Latin, Greek, Arabic etc.

Let us study for example, some names of animals.

In Greek 'Hippo' means a horse and 'Potamus' means a river. So hippopotamus is actually a river-horse!

Again in Greek, 'Rhino' means the nose! 'Keras' is a horn. A creature with a horn on its nose was named Rhinoceros!

In Latin 'Leopardus' means a spotted lion. Now you know from where the leopard got its name, if not its spots!

The Arabic word 'Camel' became camel in English.

'Zirafoh' means a long neck, again in Arabic. Hence the long - necked animal was named giraffe!

Now let us look at some animals living in water.

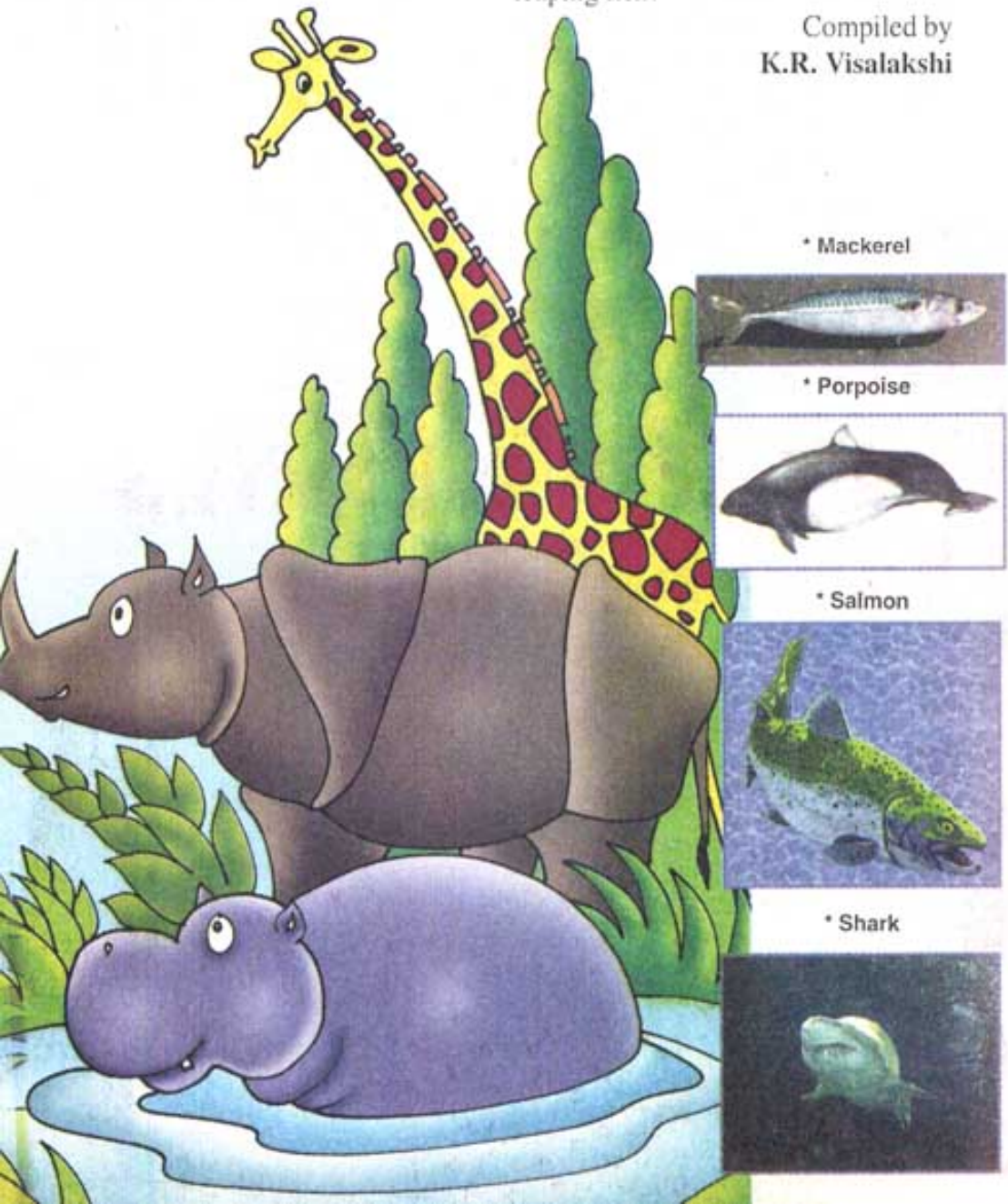
A shark is known for its deadly sharp teeth! In Latin 'Careharus' means sharp teeth. This word over the years got modified as shark.

A porpoise more or less resembles a hog. Its Latin version is 'Porcus Pisces' which means a hog fish!

It is the Danish word 'mackreel' meaning spots that got modified as Mackerel.

You know that the Salmon has the extraordinary ability to jump over obstacles during its journey up stream. The Latin word 'Salmo' means a leaping fish!

Compiled by
K.R. Visalakshi



* Mackerel

* Porpoise

* Salmon

* Shark

Story

A TALE OF THE VANISHED TAIL

It all happened when our school organized a fancy dress competition for Children's Day. There were twenty participants. From our class Tara had given her name. But as luck would have it, she fell ill the previous day. Our class teacher became very nervous. "Do something" she said to me. But I didn't know what to do!

While I scratched my head, racking my brains, Devi called out in passing, "Hey, Monkey! Look! How's my new fairy dress?"

She was to appear as a fairy in the competition but I didn't give it a thought. My mind was fixed on the one word by which she had addressed me : "Monkey!"

'Why not?' I thought. 'Why not appear as Hanuman. Should be easy to dress up as Hanuman! After all, I look very much like him!'

I went home planning how to dress up and how to act in order to grab the first prize. There was a dress rehearsal that night in my house. I was as thin as a drum stick. So, mom took a sari of hers and a couple of dhotis belonging to dad and wrapped them around me. Another dhoti worn in 'Panchakacham' style and a Jibba as 'top' completed the dress.

"I will paint your face tomorrow, just before you enter the stage; not now", said Mom. She was worried about the washing to be done after the show. I didn't care! All I wanted was a "Gadha" now... I borrowed Pa's tennis racket, attached a pipe to it to provide a long handle and used crumpled news papers to give it a bulging look at the top! Yellow cloth and cellotape completed the transformation. I was all set. But had I forgotten something?

Ofcourse, the tail! Of what use is Hanuman without his wonderful tail! A

thick rope? Another dothi rolled up? Somehow these did not seem good enough. Suddenly my heart leaped! My eyes had spotted just the right thing for the tail. Younger brother's long green balloon! Fortunately he was asleep and I could borrow it without having him create a scene!

My school had a big auditorium with a seating capacity of eight hundred. The hall was overflowing and roaring with enthusiastic appreciation as the show went on. At last it was the turn of the fancy dress participants.

Mother Teresa blessed the onlookers; Barbie charmed the audience; A policeman appeared swinging his lathi and so on. Finally it was my turn. I was sweating, but gathered courage and bounced on the stage crying "Jai Shree Ram!" Soon, feeling confident, I was jumping all over the stage!

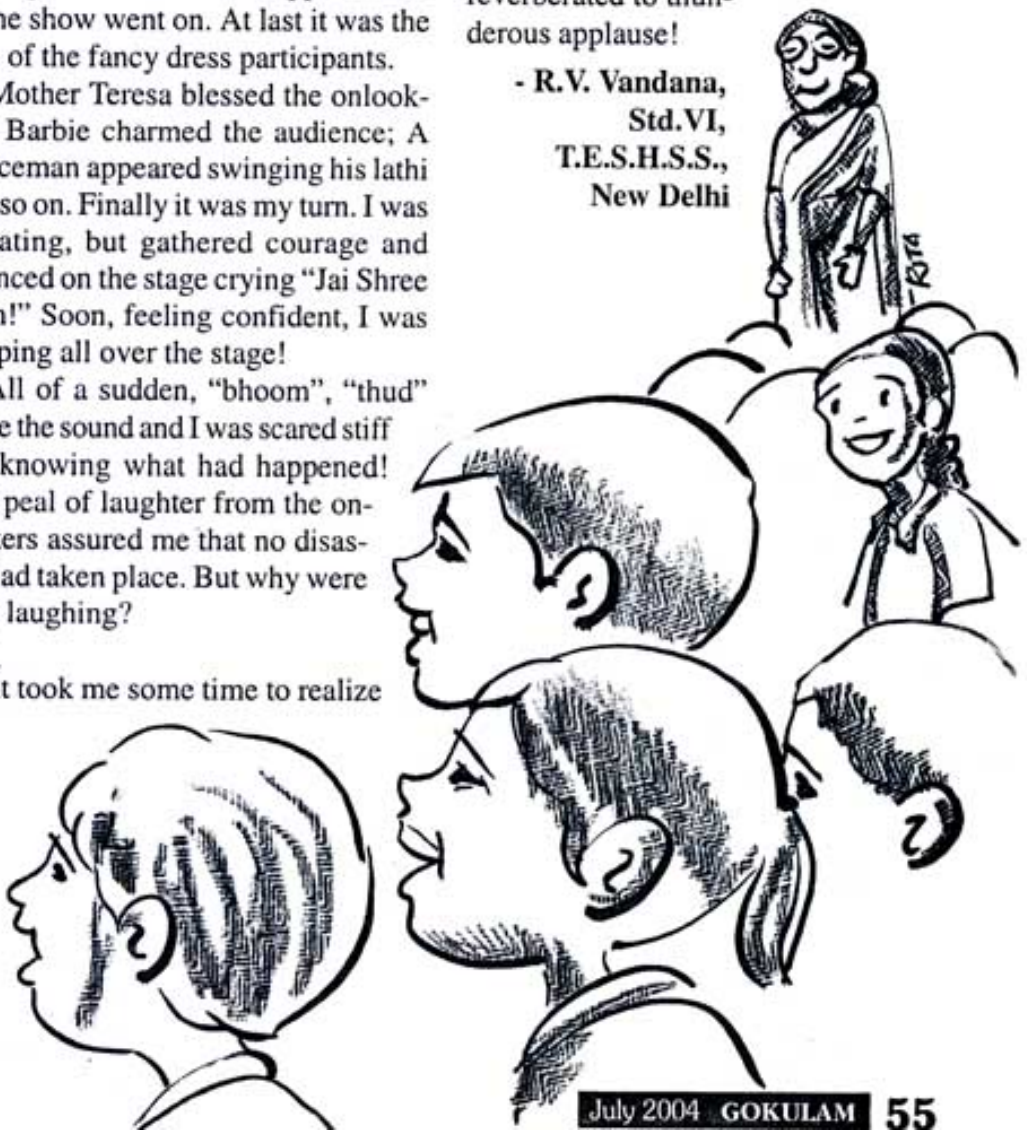
All of a sudden, "bhoom", "thud" came the sound and I was scared stiff not knowing what had happened! The peal of laughter from the onlookers assured me that no disaster had taken place. But why were they laughing?

It took me some time to realize that my balloon tail had burst! I left the stage, dejected and almost in tears.

The chief judge, a well-known person, came on stage and announced the winners. The first prize went to Nikita who appeared as Barbie. The second prize went to Ashwin who had dressed up as a tribal.

"The third prize goes to..." what a sweet surprise! The judge called my name! "Tail or no tail" he said, "Hanuman is Hanuman!" and the auditorium reverberated to thunderous applause!

- R.V. Vandana,
Std.VI,
T.E.S.H.S.S.,
New Delhi



ART GALLERY

▲ **Archana Kujur,** Std.X,
Meghmala Roy Education Centre,
Kolkata

▲ **K. Christina Kurien,** Std.VII,
St. Joseph Convent HS, Pune

▲ **A.V. Varun,** Std.X, A.S.M.
High School, Bangalore

▲
B. Prathibha, Std.IX,
Indira Priyadarshini Girls HS, Bangalore

S. Varalakshmi, Std.V,
▼ Saratha Matric School, Gingee

M.V. Sowmya,
▶ Secunderabad

Penpals

Name : **Bharathi**
Age : 13
Address : 29, Dr. Natesan Road, Ice House, Chennai - 600 005.
Hobbies : Reading Gokulam, making friends, watching cartoon films, listening to music.

Name : **Manish Keshavan**
Age : 14
Address : 44, Church Road, Near Parsudih Market, Jatanagar Post Office, Jamshedpur 831 002.
Hobbies : Writing stories, poems, etc., playing cricket and football, watching T.V., and making friends.

Name : **Debashish Nandi**

FRIENDS ARE FOREVER

Age : 19
Address : Hatkhola, Mukterpara, Chandernagore - 712 136, Hooghly (W.B.)
Hobbies : Reading, writing letters, learning languages, photography, travelling, watching movies, listening to FM, quizzing, attending seminars and social work.

Name : **S. Sri Hari Krishna**
Age : 8
Address : L33/7, TNHB Colony Korattur, Chennai - 600 080.
Hobbies : Writing poems, playing cricket and badminton, reading books and making friends.

Name : **T.M. Padmini Bhavya**
Age : 16
Address : 50, Industrial Area, Opp. Jyothi Nivas College, Koramangala 5th Block, (upstairs), Bangalore - 560 095.

Hobbies : Reading books, writing poems, watching television, singing, listening to music and cooking.

Name : **Krithika Devi Radhakrishnan**

Age : 16

Address : 4, Baduwatte, Lewella, Kandy, Sri Lanka.

Hobbies : Reading books (especially Gokulam), listening to music, surfing the net, playing basketball and games on my computer.

Name : **S. Mahalakshmi**

Age : 13

Address : 6, Sarin House, Mazagon Dock Qtrs, Dockyard Road, Mumbai - 400 010.

Hobbies : Reading books, watching T.V., drawing, collecting stamps and singing.

Name : **V. Yashoda**

Age : 14

Address : 533, B-Block, IIM-B Quarters, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560 076.

Hobbies : Dancing, singing, preparing craft works and reading books.

Name : **Saumya Varghese**

Age : 16

Address : 1/A, 32, Sector 10, Bhilai Durg, Chattisgarh - 490 006.

Hobbies : Playing hockey and badminton, writing poems, reading books and making friends.

Name : **V. Vishal**

Age : 12

Address : 6008/4, Sector - D6, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110 070

Hobbies : Reading books, playing the keyboard, browsing internet, carnatic music, cycling and playing cricket.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES ON PAGES 20 AND 21

I. KNOW YOUR BEETLES!

Across : 1. Boll 2. Balance 3. Covering 4. Goliath 6. Tunnel 8. Wings 9. Rats 10. Damage

Down : 1. Beetle 2. Burying 3. Cotton 5. Eggs 7. Larvae

II. KNOW YOUR KINGS

1.Akbar 2.Ashoka 3.Karikalan 4.Chenguttuvan 5.Vikramaditya 6.Dhananandа 7.Alexander 8.Samudragupta 9.Julius Caesar 10.Shahjahan

III. A HANDFUL OF RIDDLES

1. 'Imagi'nation 2. Bo'tan'ical garden 3. 'Mos'quito 4. B'lack' 5. Cot'ton' 6. Gang'tok' 7. St'itch' 8. 'Coff 'ee 9. Window 'Pane' 10. 'Spin'ach

LUNAR ALTERNATIVE

WRITER

Enid Blyton was born in South London on August 11, 1897 as the eldest of three children. She had a troubled childhood. Her father, Thomas Carey Blyton left the family when Enid was fifteen. But he took care of his children's school fees.

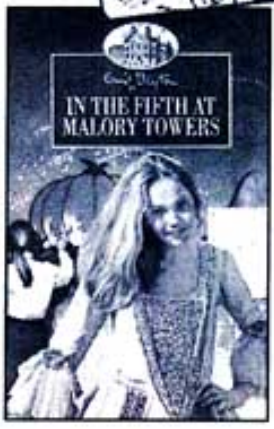
Millions of children all over the world are thrilled by the very mention of her name. Her success story is as exciting as her books.

Even from her earliest childhood, Enid had started to write stories, articles and poems. She sent them regularly to various periodicals. Her mother Theresa Mary Hamilton did not approve of Enid being a bookworm. Although her family repeatedly advised her that writing was a waste of time, Enid remained undaunted.

Enid's first book was a collection of verses titled "Child Whisper" and was published in 1922. She was at first trained as a kindergarten teacher and was able to open her own school for infants. But later she devoted her entire time to writing.

In 1926, Enid started editing a new magazine for children named "Sunny Stories". She also wrote for another magazine called "Teachers World." Her plays and poems became popular among teachers who used them for cultural events at school.

In 1938, Enid Blyton's first full length children's adventure story "The Secret Island" was published and this was the turning point. The idea of a fast moving story for children proved to be very successful and Enid Blyton started to attract a wider audience.



PAR EXCELLENCE

Then came the "Famous Five" and the "Secret Seven" series of stories and Enid Blyton shot up to fame. During the thirties and forties the name Enid Blyton was almost synonymous with children's literature.

Her stories portrayed the world of good and bad in clear-cut terms. Children were heroes with a sense of adventure. They were honest and brave and always triumphed over evil in the end!

Enid Blyton could write ten

thousand words a day! Her fertile imagination and facile pen wrote for children of all ages and book sales exceeded all expectations!

During the fifties and sixties, Enid Blyton was attacked by critics and libraries imposed a ban on her books!

The critics said that she had a limited vocabulary. They also accused her of being prejudiced against non-whites and non-middle class characters!

All these criticisms were subsequently countered and they vanished in due course.

During the sixties, Enid Blyton found it increasingly difficult to write. Her husband who was a tower of strength to her, died in 1967 and in the months that followed, her own illness grew progressively worse. She died in her sleep on November 28, 1968.

Enid Blyton left a legacy of over 600 books. She also wrote under the pseudonym Mary Pollack. She was probably the most successful British writer of the twentieth century. Her books continue to be read by successive generations of children and she lives on in their young hearts!

Compiled by R. Anjoo Sharon from a website and magazine articles.

Poems

SOARING

I WONDER WHY?

I wonder why the stars shine,
And why the King of the Jungle
is always the lion?

I wonder why there are tides in
the sea,
And why the nectar is sucked by
the humming bee?

I wonder why we humans
have the sixth sense,
And why some forests are
so dense?

I wonder why porcupines
have spines,
And why I wrote these lines

- S.Srivatsan
Std.VI, K.V.Narimedu, Madurai

PERSONALITY PUT TO TEST

The beauty of a face
Lies not in proportion,
But in the frequently shown
expression.

The capacity of the mind
In merit is not fully shown,

MAGINATIONS

OH! HOW I WISH!

In the dawn of morning
When I go to school
I see the sweeper
Big and burly
Swishing away leaves
Whistling a merry tune...
Oh! How I wish I were the sweeper
Swishing away leaves!

In the evening when I see
The aeroplane with it's twinkling lights
Looking like a big bird in the
darkening sky
I wave to the pilot
Who guides this big magic bird
Oh! How I wish I were a pilot
With my own magic bird
To steer and fly in the big blue sky!

Pavitra Kavya,
Std. XI, Holy Child Auxilium School, New Delhi

But in times of crisis, it's true
ability is known.

The character of a person
Shows not in his personality,
But in times of great difficulty.

The greatness of a person
Lies not in his talents,
But in his goodness and benevolence.

Krithika Venkatraman, Std.XI,
S.I.E.S.Junior College, Mumbai

CRAFT FROM WASTE

POM POMS

You will need :

Cardboard
Wool
Darning needle

Method :

Cut two circles of the same size out of cardboard. Pierce a hole in the middle of each. Thread the needle with a long length of thick wool. Place one circle on top of the other. Pass the needle through the centre and around the outer edge of the combined circles. Continue till the area is filled. Cut the wool around the edge between the two circles. Tie a length of wool between the two circles and knot it firmly. Carefully tear the cardboard sheets. Your pom - pom is ready!

Note :

You can use these pompoms to make all sorts of pretty items. Use your imagination. For instance, you can make a cat by using a small pompom for the head and a larger one for the body. Attach a pipe cleaner for the tail and add felt ears, nose and eyes!

- Ankit Vikram, Std.VII,
Holy Home School, Serampur

PLASTIC PEOPLE

You need :

Empty ice cream cups
Plain white paper
Card board
Wool
Paint
Felt pens
Scissors

Method :

Paint the white paper light pink and let it dry. Stick it all around the cups. Stick wool for hair and moustaches. If wool is not available, use cotton wool instead. Cut out the card board in the shape of a hat and shoes and stick them on. Then, with felt pens, put in rest of the face. You can stick things like buttons or watermelon

seeds for the eyes or just draw them. Give your plastic people names. Gift them to your favourite friends or cousins.

- G. Sindhu, Std.XI,
S.C.E.M. School,
Chilakaluripet

Temple Treasures

PULIPARAKKOIL

* Vadaponnambalam Pulipara koil

* Shiva Temple

Vadaponnambalam lies 9 km south-east of Maduranthagam in the state of Tamil Nadu. The temple, spread over 40 cents on the southern banks of the Palar river, is very ancient dating back to the Chola period.

The presiding deity Vyagrapureswarar is a *Swayambu lingam** and is white in colour. Sage Vyagrapadhar (Sage Pulipani)** is said to have performed pooja to this deity. Hence the name. The consort is Balakujambigai.

Many inscriptions are found in this temple, the oldest being that of King Maravarma Sundara Pandian. The temple is in a very dilapidated condition today.

A granite stone slab moving on two granite stone balls, which acts as present day ball bearings, when moved, exhibits a tunnel which according to the priests leads to the Vishnu temple located about a kilometre away. The architectural expertise is revealed by this slab.

The Varadaraja Perumal Temple lies in the southern direction at Lakshminarayanapuram about a Km away form the Siva temple. The splendid stone pillars in this temple are beautifully carved. One pillar contains very small holes on top, through which, a stick, when inserted comes out in four and eight splices.

One cannot but marvel the scientific and architectural advancement of Ancient India. A visit to this temple is a must for all.

-P.S.

* Self originated lingam. ** Tiger palmed

PUPPY POWER!

Anushree was in an expectant mood that day. It was her sixth birthday! Her parents had promised her a surprise gift when she got back home. What would it be?

'Knock! knock!'

"Happy birthday!" Her parents chorused as they opened the door and snuggling in the hands of Daddy was a white furry pup, staring at Anu with his button like brown eyes!

"What! A dog?" Anu screamed in utter disappointment and anger!

"No, just a puppy and we've named him 'Furry' " said Dad.

"And he's your birthday gift from us!"

"You always complained about being lonely" said Ma. "You didn't like being alone in your room at night while studying. Now, Furry will keep you company, always!"

Furry looked at Anu, head tilted a little, as if asking "Anu, will you be my friend?"

Anu had no choice. She accepted the cute gift and took Furry to her room. From that day onwards Furry was always with her except when she went to school. He watched her getting ready for school, eating her breakfast, rushing off to school and doing home work.

He played with her and slept under her cot. He seemed to love her so much but still Anu could not accept Furry as her friend.

When Anu's friend Mala came to play with her Furry barked at her and jumped onto her lap. Mala was terrified. "I'm

not coming to your house again" said Mala. "This puppy wants all of your attention and will not allow you to play with me!"

Anu had to agree with her. She was really fed up with Furry. She complained to her mother. "I don't want this puppy any more"

"But Furry loves you! He cares so much for you."

"Sure. I've already lost one friend because of him. He's just a nuisance!"

"Okay" said Mother, "I'll ask our maid servant to take Furry away. After all, she's the one who's been taking care of him when you are at school She's very fond of Furry."

Next day when Anu returned home from school, she experienced a void. Furry was not there to welcome her. How he would jump all over her expressing his happiness! He would somehow convey that he needed her love and succeed in getting her attention. He would make her take him out for a walk or play with him.

Anu said to herself. "I don't miss him at all!" But as she sat down to read her lessons aloud, she found that she couldn't concentrate!

The next morning as Anu sat down for breakfast she heard the servant maid talking to mother about Furry and so she listened carefully.

"Poor thing. He misses all of you so much! He didn't eat anything! He's been whining all night. I'm afraid he may even die!"

"Oh! Furry! Furry!" cried Anu tears rolling down her eyes uncontrollably.

Mother consoled her. "Don't worry, Nothing is lost. Our maid will return Furry to us if you want him back."

"Of course I do!" sobbed Anu.

Mom promised her that Furry would be back to welcome her when she returned from school.

What a wonderful reunion it was! From that moment Anu and Furry were not just companions but fast friends!

- Ankita D. Patil, Std.XII,
Model College, Thane

Quiz O'mania

This is a different kind of quiz :

Fill in the blanks with the right words to read a brief historical and chronological outline about one of the most powerful empires of India.

In the year _____ , the first of the Mogul emperors _____, defeated the then reigning emperor _____ at the Battle of _____ . Thus began the rule of the Moguls.

Humayun, the second of the Mogul rulers, ascended the Mogul throne in 1530. He lost most footholds and was even overthrown by the Afgan crafty ruler _____ in the year _____. Although the Mogul supremacy had a set back for a short period during his reign, Humayun somehow managed to retake Delhi in the year 1555. However, Humayun did not survive long after that.

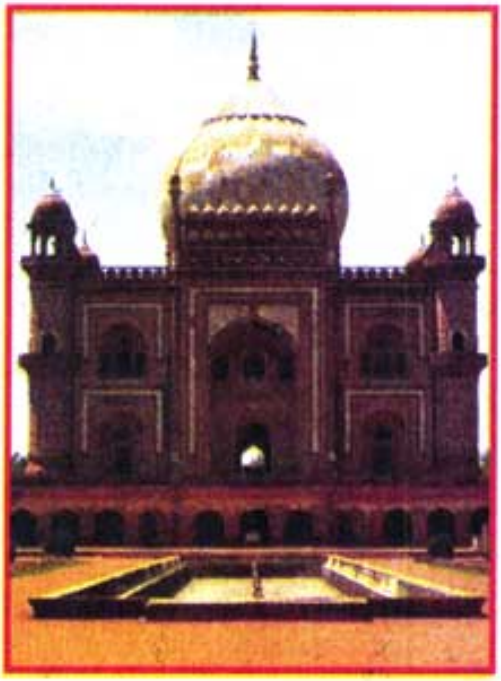
With the death of Humayun, in 1556, his son _____ ascended the throne. This great ruler, a free thinking Muslim, known for his tolerance, married a princess from the Hindu province of _____ thus creating a sensation! He built a new capital city at _____ near Agra, in the year _____. The governance and accomplishments of this ruler were detailed by _____ in his book _____ . This king, perhaps the 'greatest' among the Mogul rulers, was lucky to have his court studded with _____ gems. Each of these gems were ministers or artists who guided the king ably and aided him in his reign. Among these, we cannot but know _____ the wise and witty minister and _____ the talented musician.

THEY CAME

The fourth of the Mogul kings _____, did not really prove worthy of his father. Not much happened during his regime His

Compiled and conceived by
Kichu

of the world, came to be built? This fantastic piece of architecture was built in memory of his wife _____, who, unfortunately died in child birth.



beautiful wife _____ is said to have had a great influence on this king. Painting and arts attained unrivaled heights during his rule.

_____ and _____ gave birth to Prince _____ who later came to be known as Shah Jahan. If painting as an art had reached great heights during his father's rule, it was during Shah Jahan's reign that Mogul architecture took splendorous form. Don't we all know the story of how the _____, one of the seven wonders

THEY CONQUERED !

Dear children,

Hope you enjoy this quiz. Here are portraits of the six famous Mogul kings. Try putting down their names and then number them 1 to 6 to arrive at the Mogul lineage. Answers in August 2004 issue!

Rumours of Shah Jahan's death triggered war among his four sons, _____, _____, _____ and _____.

The victor _____, crowned himself as king in 1658 and confined his father to the palace. This ruler was, in the eyes of many Muslims, considered the greatest of the Moguls. But among the Hindus, he earned a reputation of being a 'fanatic'. The communal tree that his great grand father nourished was brought down by this arrogant and avaracious king. The arts that had flourished were less appreciated.

With a quest to conquer, this king departed for the Indian South, the Deccan in 1681, where the kingdoms of _____, _____ and _____ confronted him. Time and again the Moguls were attacked by the Maratha warriors led by their chief _____ _____, today a national hero. The Mogul ruler remained in the Deccan for nearly 26 years. The Mogul court too had moved from the North to a modest little capital city called _____, a city that was named after the king himself.

The death of this ruler in _____ saw the gradual decline of the Mogul empire. The lineage after this produced weaklings.

With the invasion of _____ of Persia in 1739 and the carrying away of the _____, the mogul rulers succumbed to gradual take over by the _____ _____ Company.

The Moguls had given India six towering kings who came to be popularly known as 'Babur the Brave', 'Humayun the Kind', 'Akbar the Great', 'Jehangir the Pleasure Seeker', 'Shah Jahan the Palace Builder' and 'Aurangazeb the Conqueror'.

WOW! WASN'T THAT SIMPLY MIND-BOGGLING

How many of these blanks did you get right? There were 38 blanks in all. Did you get them all right? If you did, a wonderful book may come your way!

Write down, in order, numbers 1 to 38 for each of these blanks. Against each of these numbers write the corresponding answer. Your answers must reach us before **16.07.2004**.

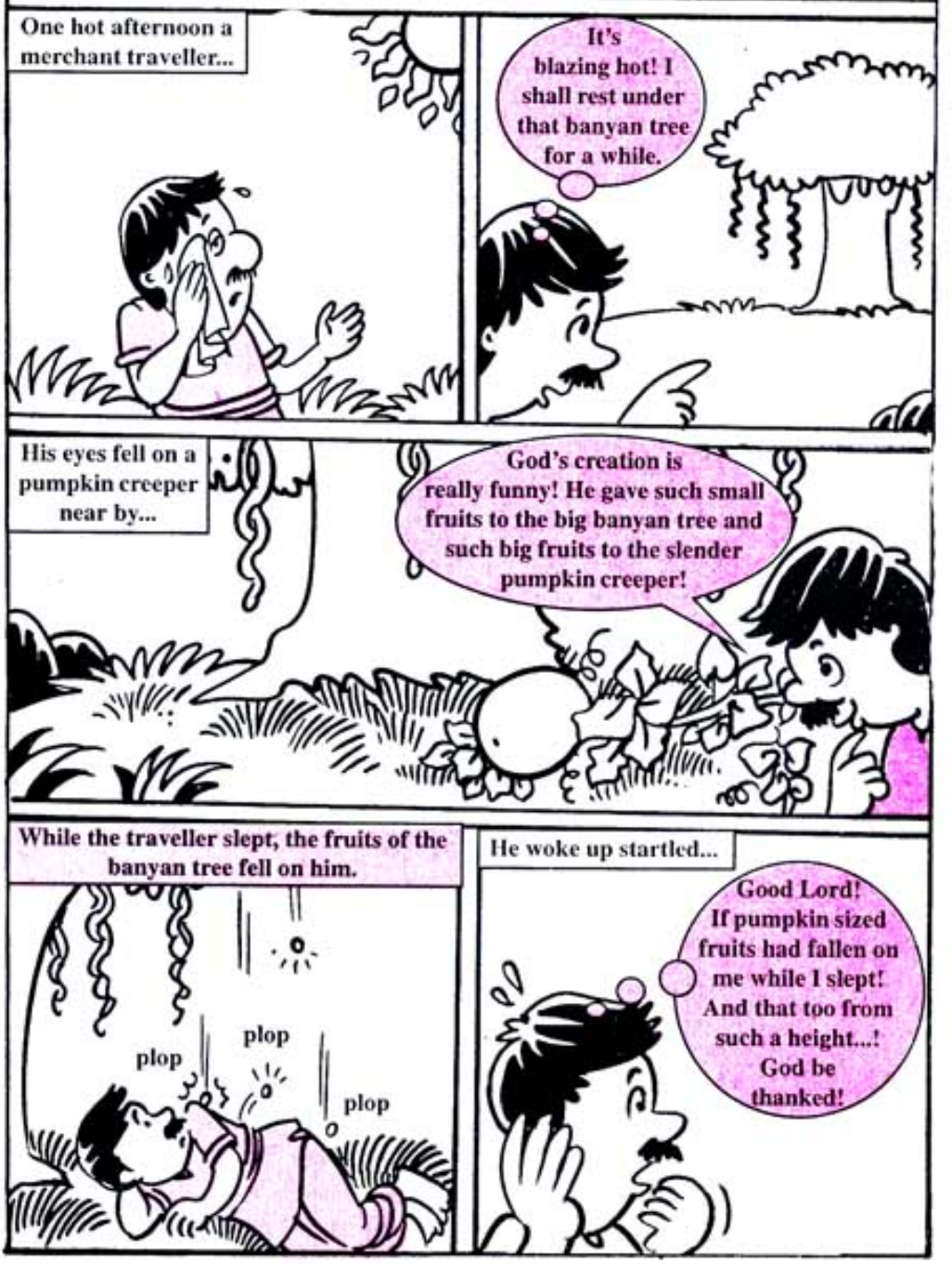
Strictly for school going children. Two lucky winners will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. Incomplete entries will be rejected.

Give details of your name, age, class, school and residential address.

Mention Quiz O'mania on the envelope.

IN GOD'S CREATION

Granny Story : **Sai Deepak** *Illustration :* **Mahesh**



Sports Talk

Probably the most televised soccer event in India, Euro 2004 has kicked off to an exciting start. And even though Greece pulled off a shocker when they defeated home team Portugal, and Spain won with the help of a masterly substitution (Valeron was brought on, and he scored a goal with his first touch of the football), the highlight of the first few days was England's loss to France. Leading by one goal right upto the 89th minute, none would have thought France could equalize, let alone win the game. But that's exactly what they did, with (who else?) Zinadine Zidane scoring off a free kick, and then off a penalty, within a minute of each other.

And honestly, England deserved it. After Lampard's goal in the first half, they had eight men hovering around the penalty box, and only Owen and Rooney were given the space to move forward. This is undoubtedly the most boring strategy in the book, and since England's midfielders aren't known for their pace, they couldn't launch a counter-attack either.

• Zinadine Zidane

• Lampard

So what do we have left for the tournament? Will it be the flamboyant French, the talented Spaniards or the industrious Germans who take the cup? Spain traditionally under-perform in big tournaments, and unless Morientes and Raul find some kind of form, this tournament could be another case in point. The Germans, finalists of the World Cup, stand a realistic chance, but France will have to step into next gear if they are to win. My tip for this cup is Italy. Italian football is at its peak right now. With strikers like Totti and Del Piero, and the defensive capabilities of Alessandro Nesta, they seem to have the most complete team in the tournament.

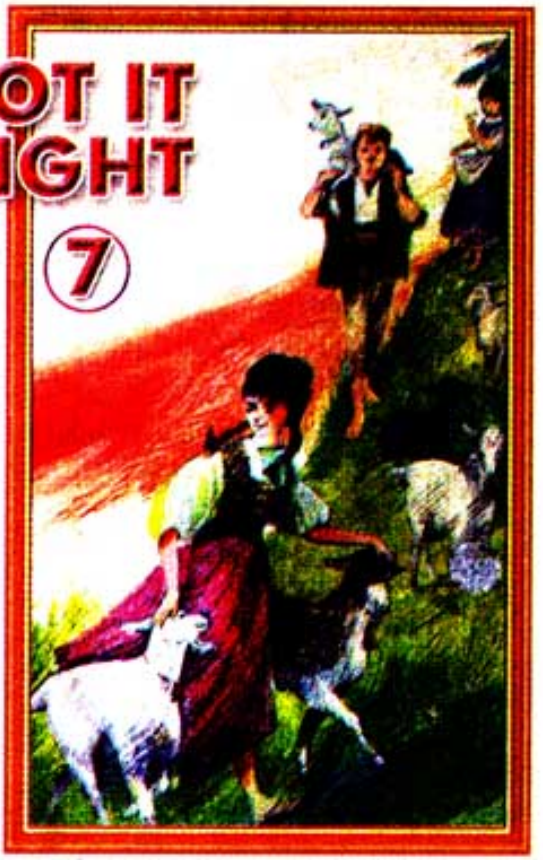
EURO 2004

Abhinav Ramnarayan

LUCKY WINNER CASH AWARD Rs.50/-

SPOT IT RIGHT

7



Rules and Regulations

• Strictly for school going children • Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. • Incomplete entries will be rejected. • entries accepted only on this form • No xerox copies.

Look at the illustration and write your answers :

1. Name the classic :
   (clue : It is also the name of the little girl you see in the picture)
2. Author :
3. Country where the story takes place :
4. The little girl's goatherd friend :
5. The little girl's invalid friend :
6. At the end of the story, the little girl is taken back to the city : True / False

Last Date : 12.07.2004

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class .....

School : .....

Residential Address : .....

..... Pin .....

Signature : .....

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings, 47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 097.

Viewpoint

VIOLENCE IN

It has been scientifically proved that anything visual will have a greater impact on the brain. Violence that one hears or reads about may not affect a person so much. But when shown on TV or in films, it becomes the main reason for the increase in violence.

- M. Viswasundar,
Std.X, Caldwell HSS,
Tuticorin

Children of today are exposed to a lot of violence through films and TV. Films often portray violence as the best means to achieve an end and glorify violent characters. People get carried away by these characters and consider them as role models. Children, in order to get what they want, indulge in violence. Children have impressionable minds while teenagers have wavering minds.

There is a definite increase in violence and even murders by adults and teenagers. The TV and film media should act with more responsibility.

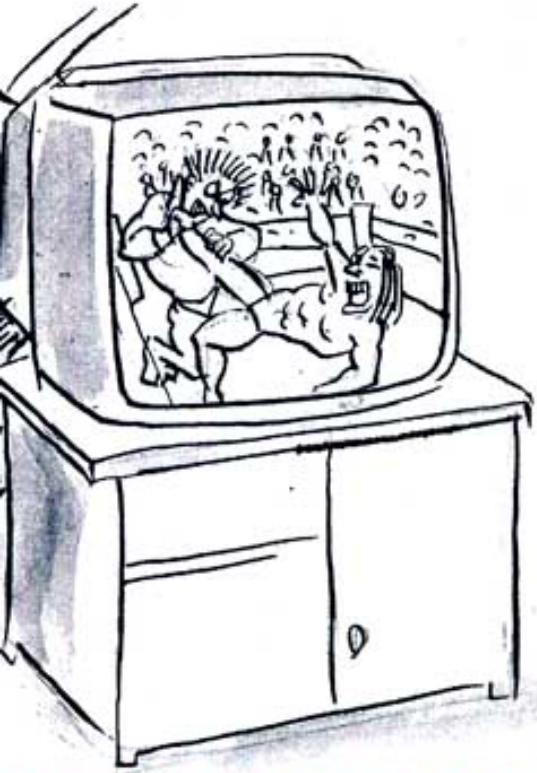
- R. Raunak, Std.VIII,
Trinity HS, Mumbai

I feel that children and teenagers get more affected by the violence portrayed in films and on TV than the rest. People staying in poor localities in India are easily carried away by viewing these programmes. Because of poverty violence is ingrained in their minds and they are likely to commit crimes in their later years if not immediately.

- Shasya Desai, Std.IX,
Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan,
Vadodara

Nowadays with both parents working, children are left alone to watch TV at home. They watch violent serials and films which influence them. When they feel neglected and do not have parents to guide them, even children indulge in crimes.

- Divya V. Bhat,
Std.VIII, I.E.B.'s Modern
English School,
Mumbai



TV AND FILMS

TV and films influence young and illiterate people since their minds are most impressionable. Excessive violence shown in films destroys the tender and finer feelings and brutalises the mind. Many people learn to commit crimes of different types. So I feel violence in Indian society is increasing due to violence on TV.

- Sagar K. Maru,
Std.IX, Sou Laxmibai English Medium School,
Mumbai

Violence shown on the movie screen and TV have a negative impact on the tender and sensitive minds of the teenagers. Gruesome murders committed by fictitious characters spoil the healthy and positive outlook on life.

Children are like clods of clay and can be moulded easily. Children imitating the screen heroes and villains have proved to be dangerous. Tooth for tooth, blood for blood attitude should be discouraged.

- C. Radhika Seshadri,
Std.IX, Camford School,
Chittoor

Teenagers and children have the tendency to imitate. Violence shown on TV and in films are the main reasons for violent behaviour among children and teenagers who watch them. However I do not agree that society in

general consisting of adults and children would be influenced by these scenes.

- Anson Mathew, Std.VI,
St. Thomas Boy's School,
Kolkata

Nowadays everybody's favourite pastime is watching TV and movies. Violence shown on TV and movies poison the minds of children and college students. The children imitate heroes who fight and seem to follow their footsteps. They believe whatever is shown on TV and in movies. I strongly feel that children should be choosy about the movies they watch and violence in movies should be discouraged.

- K. Apuroopa, Std.IX,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Hyderabad

Question for this Month

POTTER MANIA Reintroduced

In 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban' Harry helps Gryffindor win the Quidditch Cup for the first time in eight years.

This 'historic' moment has been left unattended to in the movie.

What do you think?

Send in your views as soon as possible. Your views will be published in the August Issue. Also don't forget to include details of your age, class and residential address. Published entries will receive a special remuneration of Rs.25/-

Last date to receive entries 12.07.2004

Child Achievers

NEW!

LAUDABLE LAURELS!

M.A. Uttara of T.V.S. Lakshmi Matric School, Madurai stood State First in the Matric Exams. She is an avid reader of Gokulam, like all of you. Many of her contributions have been published in Gokulam too. From a very young age she has won Laurels in District, State and National levels. Gokulam proudly presents an interview with this child achiever.

Were you expecting to top the exams or was it a surprise?

Well, it was a total surprise. I didn't expect anything. I wanted to prepare my mind so as to encounter any disappointment. My teachers expected it though.

Apart from academics, what are your other achievements?

I have won many prizes in elocution and quiz competitions and in creative writing too.

I won a trip to Singapore in a contest recently organised by Air India.

I stood All India First in p.c.m general knowledge exam when I was in Std.V.

I wrote a thesis on "VACCINOLOGY: A BOON FROM BIO TECHNOLOGY" for Dupont India contest. It was selected for a special prize.

You owe your success to.....?

My parents, school, my relaxed way of studying , written practice, presentation and god.

Are you a bookworm?

Bookworm in the sense , I read a lot of books other than my normal school books. In fact, even on exam days, I read magazines and newspapers.

How much of your time did you

Here are some quickies from Uttara...

My pet name :Sandhya, Sandy

Date of birth : March 4th 1989

Zodiac : Pisces (fishing for trouble !)

My favourite hero : Brad Pitt, Suryaa

I admire : Indira Gandhi, Kalam, Dravid

I dislike : Back stabbing friends

My lucky colour : violet

My favourite magazine/ book: GOKULAM, Harry Potter.

My favourite sport/game : Basket ball (suited for my 5 feet 8 inches!)

I love eating bhel puri, and hate milk.

devote to studies and how much on extra curricular/co-curricular activities?

I spent very little time on studies till January as I was attending various quiz programmes. After that I became more serious and studied four hours a day.

Can you recall any incident in your childhood which made an impression or inspired you?

Well, I have always been impressed by state rankers. My inspirations are Dr. Kalam, for his hard work and wisdom and Rahul Dravid for consistency. (I am always very consistent, I never score centums, but all subject average is 97%)

Do you have many friends? Do you help them with school work, exam preparations etc?

I have many friends, but books are my best friends. In fact, it was my senior friends, who guided me on how to present the answers which I think is most important.

Do you have siblings? Are they happy or jealous of your success?

No, I am an only child.

Would you like to pursue your studies in India or go abroad? Would you like to serve the country or work abroad.

I am aspiring for a seat in BITS Pilani/Goa or in Anna University. If not, I am planning to go to National University of Singapore for my further studies as I was very impressed by that college when I visited it.

I would like to first go abroad, then later come back and serve my country.

Letter Box

✉ I liked both the May and June issues of Gokulam. The Centrespread poster of Brian Lara was superb. I expect many more photos of cricketers.

- Akshay, Ameerpet, Hyderabad

✉ The June issue of Gokulam was very interesting. I liked the Star Rendezvous column. I expect something new in the next issue of Gokulam.

- V. Ashwin, Std.X, Madurai

✉ I have been reading Gokulam for the past four years. I am very fond of comics and the comics in my favourite magazine are very interesting. I love Wondrous The English Language and Viewpoint.

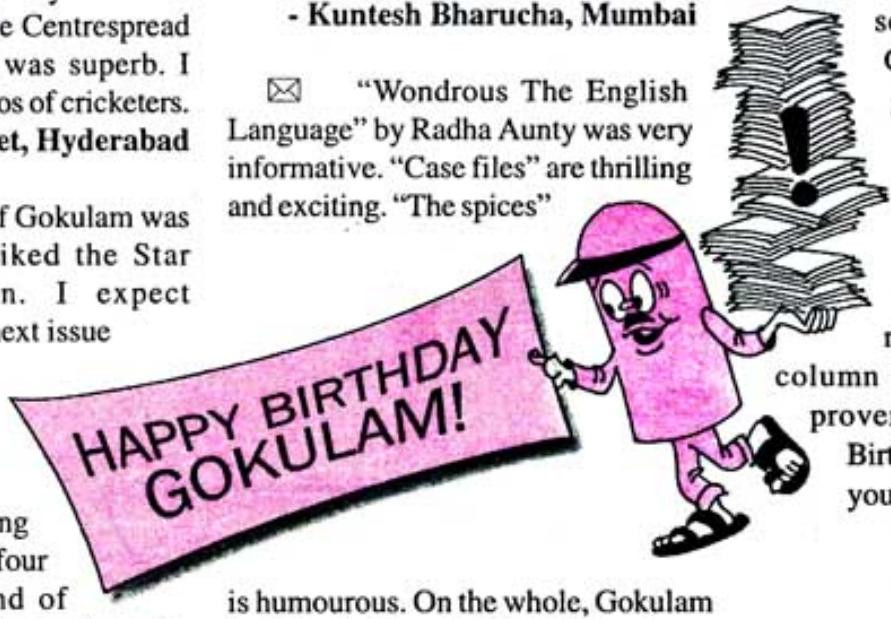
- N. Sudharsan, Coimbatore

✉ Gokulam is an extraordinary magazine for children. I loved the superb answers given by Sri T.N. Seshan.

- Kuntesh Bharucha, Mumbai

✉ "Wondrous The English Language" by Radha Aunty was very informative. "Case files" are thrilling and exciting. "The spices" is humourous. On the whole, Gokulam is "Simply Superb." It is like a theme park full of fun. We thank the people who created this theme park.

- Nisha Nandakumar, Chennai



✉ The views given by children in the Viewpoint (June issue) of Gokulam were very good. These ideas may be presented to schools. This would help in reducing the burden of school bags. I must thank Gokulam for getting me good pen friends.

- N. Varsha, Std.X, Bangalore

✉ Gokulam is an excellent magazine. I request you to please start a column featuring great sayings, proverbs, manners etc. Happy Birthday Gokulam. All the best, you'll rise above the rest.

- Munjra E. Morbiwala, Mumbai

✉ My English has improved a lot by reading "Wondrous the English Language."

- K.N. Maragatham, Kolkata

The SPICES
Story & Pictures
j.disney
Honey, where can we go and buy brains?
Why do you ask that, Cumi?
I want to buy one and gift it to you...
... for your birthday!
Stupid, don't you know I already have one?
But then, I fail to understand why Pepe should say that you are a beauty without brains!

FOR WEE FOLKS!

COLOUR AND KEEP!

List the names of articles that begin with the letter "T"

1. Television 2. Table
3. Top 4. Tumbler 5. Toys
6. Towel

HELP PLEASE!

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